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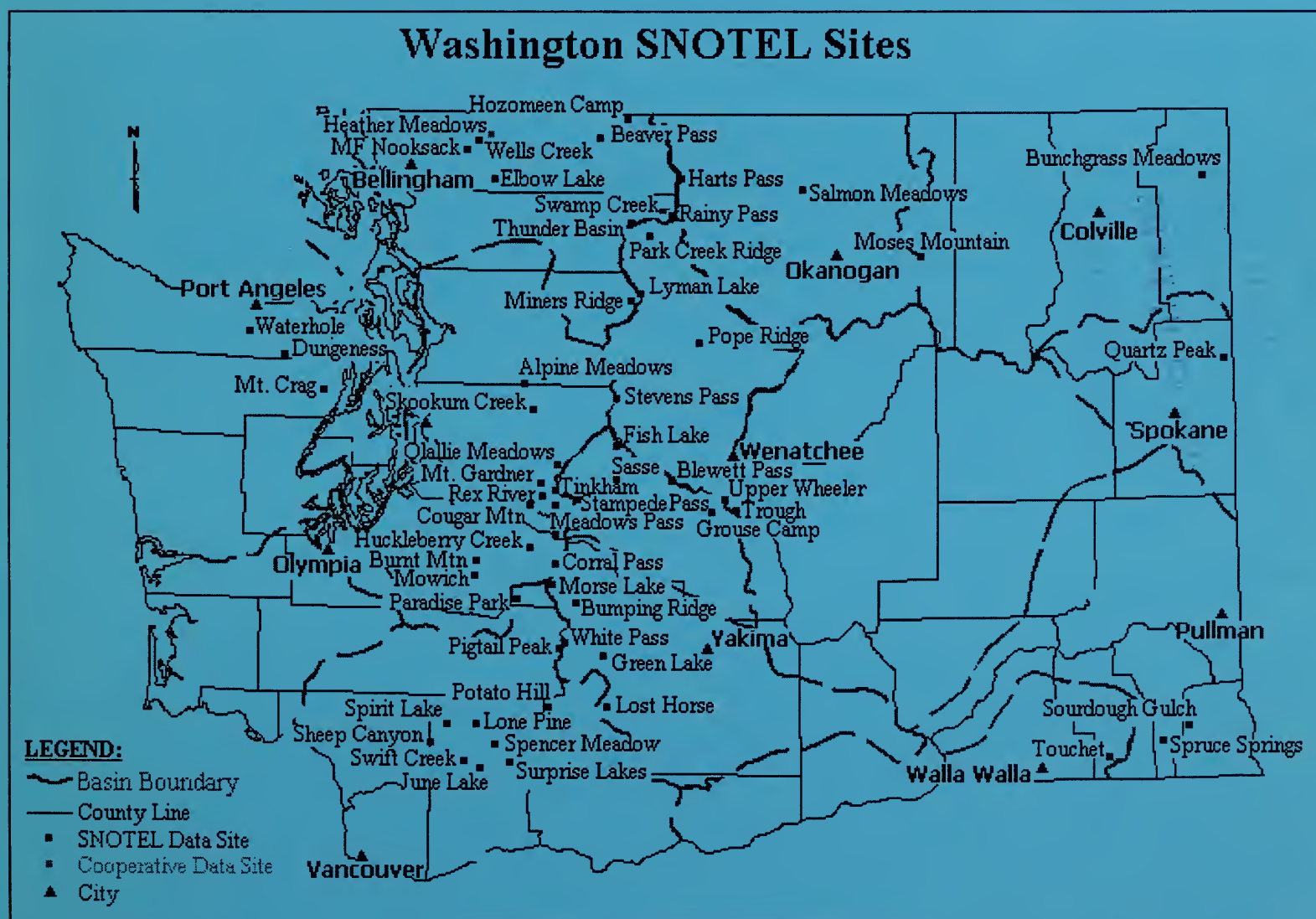
United States Department of Agriculture

Washington

Water Supply Outlook Report

May 1, 2003

Washington SNOTEL Sites



Water Supply Outlook Reports and Federal - State – Private Cooperative Snow Surveys

For more water supply and resource management information, contact:

Local Natural Resources Conservation Service Field Office

or

Scott Pattee
Water Supply Specialist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
2021 E. College Way, Suite 214
Mt. Vernon, WA 98273-2873
(360) 428-7684

or

Betty Schmitt
Public Affairs Specialist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
316 W. Boone Ave., Suite 450
Spokane, WA 99201-2348
(509) 323-2912

How forecasts are made

Most of the annual streamflow in the western United States originates as snowfall that has accumulated in the mountains during the winter and early spring. As the snowpack accumulates, hydrologists estimate the runoff that will occur when it melts. Measurements of snow water equivalent at selected manual snow courses and automated SNOTEL sites, along with precipitation, antecedent streamflow, and indices of the El Niño / Southern Oscillation are used in computerized statistical and simulation models to prepare runoff forecasts. These forecasts are coordinated between hydrologists in the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the National Weather Service. Unless otherwise specified, all forecasts are for flows that would occur naturally without any upstream influences.

Forecasts of any kind, of course, are not perfect. Streamflow forecast uncertainty arises from three primary sources: (1) uncertain knowledge of future weather conditions, (2) uncertainty in the forecasting procedure, and (3) errors in the data. The forecast, therefore, must be interpreted not as a single value but rather as a range of values with specific probabilities of occurrence. The middle of the range is expressed by the 50% exceedance probability forecast, for which there is a 50% chance that the actual flow will be above, and a 50% chance that the actual flow will be below, this value. To describe the expected range around this 50% value, four other forecasts are provided, two smaller values (90% and 70% exceedance probability) and two larger values (30%, and 10% exceedance probability). For example, there is a 90% chance that the actual flow will be more than the 90% exceedance probability forecast. The others can be interpreted similarly.

The wider the spread among these values, the more uncertain the forecast. As the season progresses, forecasts become more accurate, primarily because a greater portion of the future weather conditions become known; this is reflected by a narrowing of the range around the 50% exceedance probability forecast. Users should take this uncertainty into consideration when making operational decisions by selecting forecasts corresponding to the level of risk they are willing to assume about the amount of water to be expected. If users anticipate receiving a lesser supply of water, or if they wish to increase their chances of having an adequate supply of water for their operations, they may want to base their decisions on the 90% or 70% exceedance probability forecasts, or something in between. On the other hand, if users are concerned about receiving too much water (for example, threat of flooding), they may want to base their decisions on the 30% or 10% exceedance probability forecasts, or something in between. Regardless of the forecast value users choose for operations, they should be prepared to deal with either more or less water. (Users should remember that even if the 90% exceedance probability forecast is used, there is still a 10% chance of receiving less than this amount.) By using the exceedance probability information, users can easily determine the chances of receiving more or less water.

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Washington Water Supply Outlook

May 2003

General Outlook

Near normal temperatures combined with near to above normal precipitation throughout the month of April helped sustain mountain snowpack. Some areas even recorded slight increases in snowpack. Some of these increased were due to cold snowy storms where others were rain-on-snow events that initially helped boost snow water content. All added water to the snowpack is beneficial, as long as it stays in place until it's needed. Unfortunately we did experience some early runoff, seeing some stations melting out weeks earlier than normal. Salmon Meadows SNOTEL, near Conconully, started the year with above normal snow, then peaked two weeks early in mid March and melted out 20 days early. According to the National Weather Service we can expect a reasonable probability of getting above average precipitation with above normal temperatures for the next month.

Snowpack

The May 1 statewide SNOTEL readings remain below average at 78%. The Conconully Lake Basin snow surveys reported the lowest readings at 33% of average. Snow surveys in the Omak Creek Basin reported the highest at 116% of average. Westside averages from SNOTEL, and May 1 snow surveys, included the North Puget Sound river basins with 70% of average, the Central Puget river basins with 60%, and the Lewis-Cowlitz basins with 76% of average. Snowpack along the east slopes of the Cascade Mountains included the Yakima area with 73% and the Wenatchee area with 84%. Snowpack in the Spokane River Basin was at 58% and the Walla Walla River Basin had 79% of average. Maximum measured snow cover in Washington was at Lyman Lake SNOTEL in the Chelan River Basin, with water content of 60.2 inches. This site would normally have 67.2 inches of water content on May 1. Maximum at Lyman Lake for this season was 61.3 inches on April 25th. The highest average in the state was Grouse Camp SNOTEL site with 143% of average.

BASIN	PERCENT OF LAST YEAR	PERCENT OF AVERAGE
Spokane	42	58
Newman Lake	39	47
Pend Oreille	81	89
Okanogan	67	72
Methow	70	76
Similkameen	41	53
Wenatchee	62	72
Chelan	65	83
Upper Yakima	45	63
Lower Yakima	76	83
Ahtanum Creek	88	91
Walla Walla	64	79
Lower Snake	86	91
Cowlitz	66	81
Lewis	43	72
White	82	89
Green	36	58
Cedar	23	57
Snoqualmie	37	64
Skykomish	42	67
Skagit	58	75
Baker	72	87
Nooksack	47	48
Olympic Peninsula	63	75

Precipitation

During the month of April, the National Weather Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service climate stations reported near to above average precipitation totals throughout most of Washington river basins. The highest percent of average in the state was at Winthrop 1WSW, WA, which reported 332% of average for a total of 2.56 inches. The average for this site is .77 inches for April. The wettest spot in the state was reported at June Lake SNOTEL with an April accumulation of 14.2 inches, nearly 2 inches above the 30-year average for the site. Averages for the water-year increased considerably in most basins. The Lower Snake and Walla river basins reported the highest water-year average at 101%, up slightly from last month. The Upper Yakima River Basin reported the lowest at 83% of average and remained the same as last month with only 76% of average April accumulations.

RIVER BASIN	APRIL PERCENT OF AVERAGE	WATER YEAR PERCENT OF AVERAGE
Spokane	94	91
Colville-Pend Oreille	93	96
Okanogan-Methow	163	100
Wenatchee-Chelan	104	90
Upper Yakima	76	83
Lower Yakima	126	97
Walla Walla	123	101
Lower Snake	111	101
Cowlitz-Lewis	108	93
White-Green-Puyallup	103	86
Central Puget Sound	80	85
North Puget Sound	90	87
Olympic Peninsula	130	95

Reservoir

Seasonal reservoir levels in Washington vary greatly due to specific watershed management practices required in preparation for irrigation season, fisheries management, power generation and flood control. Reservoir storage in the Yakima Basin was 616,900-acre feet, 99% of average for the Upper Reaches and 221,500-acre feet, 131% of average for Rimrock and Bumping lakes. Storage at the Okanogan reservoirs was 49% of average for May 1. The power generation reservoirs included the following: Coeur d'Alene Lake, 159,900 acre feet, 64% of average and 67% of capacity; Chelan Lake 295,400-acre feet, 111% of average and 44% of capacity; and the Skagit River reservoirs at 135% of average and 72% of capacity.

BASIN	PERCENT OF CAPACITY	CURRENT STORAGE AS PERCENT OF AVERAGE
Spokane	67	64
Colville-Pend Oreille	83	201
Okanogan-Methow	40	49
Wenatchee-Chelan	44	111
Upper Yakima	74	99
Lower Yakima	96	131
North Puget Sound	72	135

Streamflow

May forecasts vary from 100% of average for Icicle Creek near Leavenworth to 62% of average for Teanaway River near Cle Elum. May-September forecasts for some Western Washington streams include the Cedar River near Cedar Falls, 90%; Green River, 89%; and Skagit River, 87%. Some Eastern Washington streams include the Yakima River near Parker, 79%; Wenatchee River at Plain, 80%; and Spokane River near Post Falls, 72%. Volumetric forecasts are developed using current, historic and average snowpack, precipitation and streamflow data collected and coordinated by organizations cooperating with NRCS.

Statewide April streamflows varied considerably depending on local climate and reservoir operations. The South Fork Walla Walla River near Milton-Freewater had the highest reported flows with 165% of average. The Okanogan River at Tonasket with 64% of average, was the lowest in the state. Other streamflows were the following percentage of average: the Cowlitz, 97%; the Spokane at Spokane, 76%; the Columbia below Rock Island Dam, 102%; and the Cle Elum near Roslyn, 91%.

BASIN	PERCENT OF AVERAGE MOST PROBABLE FORECAST (50 PERCENT CHANCE OF EXCEEDENCE)
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Spokane	72-75
Colville-Pend Oreille	72-90
Okanogan-Methow	71-85
Wenatchee-Chelan	65-100
Upper Yakima	62-82
Lower Yakima	74-92
Walla Walla	86-90
Lower Snake	71-99
Cowlitz-Lewis	79-86
White-Green-Puyallup	86-89
Central Puget Sound	85-91
North Puget Sound	86-90
Olympic Peninsula	86-87

STREAM	PERCENT OF AVERAGE APRIL STREAMFLOWS
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Pend Oreille Below Box Canyon	111
Kettle at Laurier	114
Columbia at Birchbank	106
Spokane at Long Lake	78
Similkameen at Nighthawk	82
Okanogan at Tonasket	64
Methow at Pateros	76
Chelan at Chelan	105
Wenatchee at Pashastin	99
Yakima at Cle Elum	89
Yakima at Parker	96
Naches at Naches	113
Grande Ronde at Troy	94
Snake below Lower Granite Dam	81
SF Walla Walla near Milton Freewater	165
Columbia River at The Dalles	92
Lewis at Ariel	87
Cowlitz below Mayfield Dam	98
Skagit at Concrete	101

BASIN SUMMARY OF SNOW COURSE DATA

MAY 2003

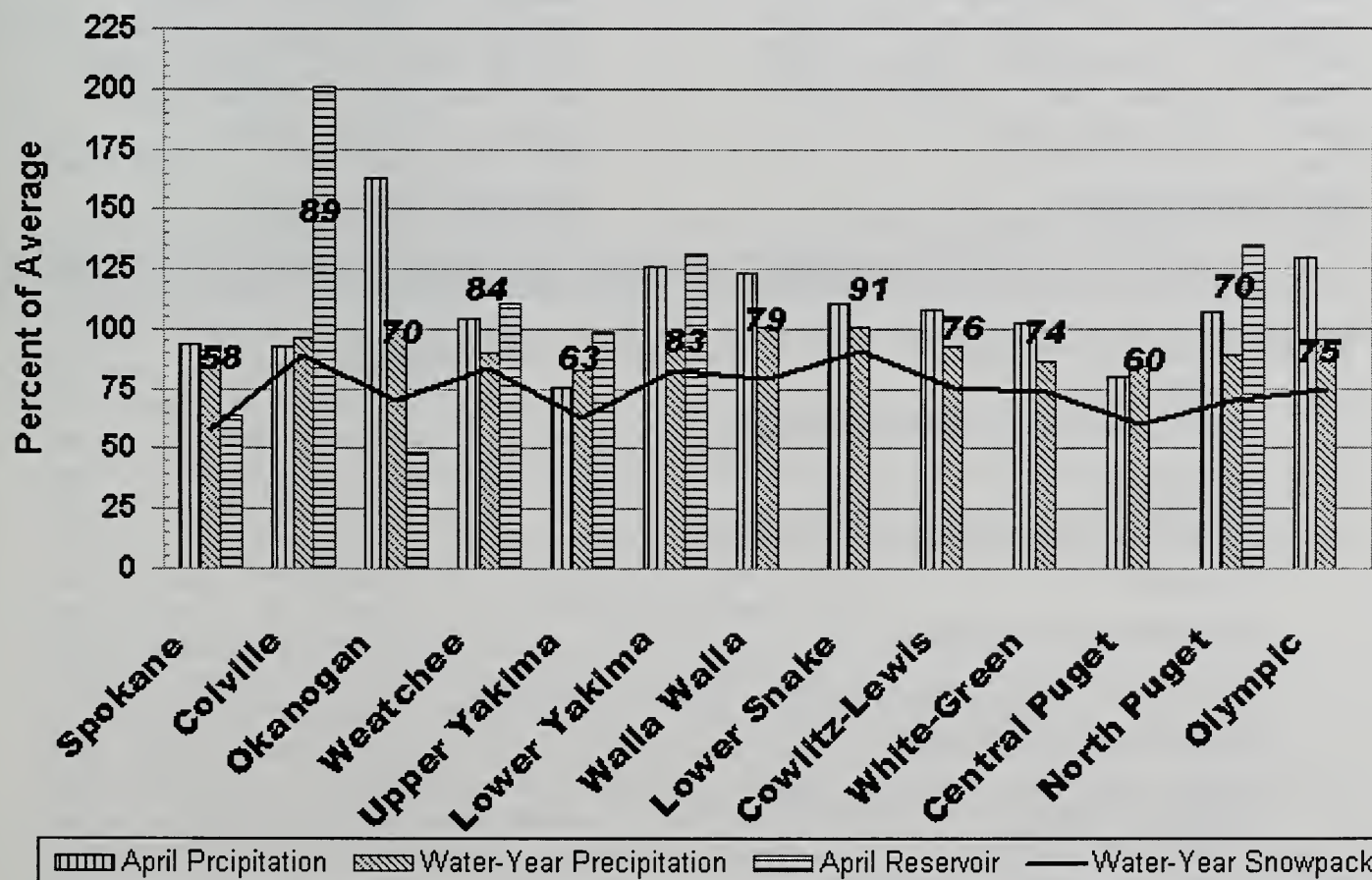
SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1971-00	SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1971-00
ABTANUM R.S.	3100	5/01/03	---	.0E	--	--	LOGAN CREEK	4300	4/29/03	0	.0	2.2	1.7
ALPINE MEADOWS	3500	5/01/03	---	24.0E	72.3	--	LOLO PASS SNOTEL	5240	5/01/03	61	26.5	29.1	24.5
ALPINE MEADOWS SNTL	3500	5/01/03	---	26.4	79.3	45.8	LONE PINE SNOTEL	3800	5/01/03	---	27.2	56.1	34.2
AMBROSE	6480	4/29/03	34	14.1	9.2	11.1	LOOKOUT SNOTEL	5140	5/01/03	42	17.7	43.8	27.2
ASHLEY DIVIDE	4820	4/29/03	0	.0	.3	1.1	LOST HORSE MTN CAN.	6300	4/27/03	24	7.6	11.8	9.7
BADGER PASS SNOTEL	6900	5/01/03	61	27.4	48.0	36.2	LOST HORSE SNOTEL	5000	5/01/03	27	12.0	11.6	10.7
BARRE CREEK	5500	4/24/03	74	32.8	47.6	40.3	LOST LAKE SNOTEL	6110	5/01/03	---	43.9	76.8	59.7
BARRE MIDWAY	4600	4/24/03	56	22.8	33.2	27.4	LOWER SANDS CREEK #2	3120	4/29/03	0	.0	24.5	15.8
BARRE TRAIL	3800	4/24/03	0	.0	8.0	1.3	LUBRECET FOREST NO 3	5450	5/01/03	0	.0	.0	1.7
BARKER LAKES SNOTEL	8250	5/01/03	58	17.7	13.9	16.2	LUBRECET FOREST NO 4	4650	5/01/03	0	.0	.0	.1
BARNES CREEK CAN.	5320	4/29/03	57	20.9	17.9	19.7	LUBRECET FOREST NO 6	4040	5/01/03	0	.0	.0	.0
BASIN CREEK SNOTEL	7180	5/01/03	---	9.3	5.0	10.0	LUBRECET HYDROPLT	4200	5/01/03	0	.0	.0	.1
BASSOO PEAK	5150	4/30/03	0	.0	7.5	3.2	LUBRECET SNOTEL	4680	5/01/03	0	.0	.0	.5
BEAVER CREEK TRAIL	2200	4/28/03	0	.0	9.4	4.4	LYMAN LAKE SNOTEL	5900	5/01/03	---	60.2	88.5	67.2
BEAVER PASS	3680	4/28/03	42	17.2	33.4	27.2	LYNN LAKE	4000	4/29/03	36	16.5	42.0	14.5
BERNE-MILL CREEK (d)	3170	4/29/03	45	18.2	30.0	22.5	MARIAS PASS	5250	5/01/03	15	5.8	20.4	12.5
BIG WHITE MTN CAN.	5510	4/30/03	43	17.8	21.3	19.4	MEADOWS CABIN	1900	4/29/03	0	.0	1.4	1.1
BLACK MOUNTAIN	7750	4/28/03	46	17.3	9.4	16.9	MEADOWS PASS SNOTEL	3240	5/01/03	---	7.5	33.9	10.8
BLACK PINE SNOTEL	7100	5/01/03	30	11.2	8.6	11.0	MERRITT	2140	4/29/03	0	.0	--	4.0
BLEWETT PASS#2SNOTEL	4270	5/01/03	0	.0	.6	5.0	MICA CREEK SNOTEL	4750	5/01/03	21	8.8	28.0	15.3
BLUE LAKE	5900	5/01/03	35	14.0	24.4	22.4	MINERAL CREEK	4000	4/29/03	19	7.8	10.0	9.6
BRENDA MINE CAN.	4450	5/01/03	---	4.6	6.3	9.3	MISSEZULA MTN CAN.	5080	4/29/03	5	1.5	8.0	5.5
BROOKMERE CAN.	3000	4/28/03	0	.0	4.3	4.0	MONASHEE PASS CAN.	4500	4/29/03	31	11.3	9.9	11.4
BROWN TOP AM	6000	4/28/03	123	55.2	89.6	62.1	MORRISSEY RIDGE CAN.	6100	5/01/03	---	29.5	41.5	27.2
BRUSH CREEK TIMBER	5000	4/29/03	0	.0	3.8	3.6	MORSE LAKE SNOTEL	5400	5/01/03	---	55.8	51.5	57.0
BULL MOUNTAIN	6600	4/30/03	0	.0	.0	2.6	MOSES MTN SNOTEL	4800	5/01/03	---	12.6	11.2	10.9
BUMPING LAKE (NEW)	3400	4/29/03	6	2.3	9.7	10.4	MOSQUITO RDG SNOTEL	5200	5/01/03	---	25.8	40.2	32.2
BUMPING RIDGE SNOTEL	4600	5/01/03	---	20.5	34.2	27.5	MOULTON RESERVOIR	6850	5/02/03	15	5.5	1.6	3.5
BUNCHGRASS MDWSNOTEL	5000	5/01/03	---	30.1	30.3	28.6	MOUNT CRAG SNOTEL	4050	5/01/03	46	20.9	31.2	27.8
CAMI CAN.	4100	4/30/03	0	.0	.2	1.1	MT. KOBAY CAN.	5500	4/27/03	37	13.5	12.2	12.8
CAYUSE PASS	5300	5/01/03	---	71.5E	100.0	89.1	MOUNT GARDNER SNOTEL	2860	5/01/03	---	.0	20.3	4.8
CHESSMAN RESERVOIR	6200	5/01/03	0	.0	1.7	1.7	N.F. ELK CR SNOTEL	6250	5/01/03	27	10.3	7.4	8.0
CHICKEN CREEK	4060	4/29/03	15	5.2	7.6	5.4	NEW HOZOMEEN LAKE	2800	4/28/03	0	.0	--	3.9
CHITWAUKUM G.S.	2500	4/29/03	0	.0	.0	1.7	NEZ PERCE CMP SNOTEL	5650	5/01/03	---	14.7	11.9	10.8
CITY CABIN	2390	5/01/03	---	.0E	--	--	NEZ PERCE PASS	6570	4/29/03	42	17.0	13.8	14.2
COMBINATION SNOTEL	5600	5/01/03	---	.1	.2	1.2	NOISY BASIN SNOTEL	6040	5/01/03	84	37.0	45.6	43.8
COPPER BOTTOM SNOTEL	5200	5/01/03	11	4.9	9.8	4.5	NORTH FORK JOCKO	6330	4/28/03	79	34.4	51.7	--
COPPER MOUNTAIN	7700	4/26/03	37	11.0	10.0	10.0	OLALLIE MDWS SNOTEL	3960	5/01/03	---	39.2	74.9	55.1
CORRAL PASS SNOTEL	6000	5/01/03	---	34.9	46.5	35.3	OLALLIE MEADOWS	3630	5/01/03	---	26.0E	67.0	36.9
COTTONWOOD CREEK	6400	4/28/03	22	7.7	4.5	7.3	OPHIR PARK	7150	4/27/03	38	15.3	12.9	16.0
COUGAR MTN. SNOTEL	3200	5/01/03	4	1.1	26.6	11.0	OYAMA LAKE CAN.	4100	4/30/03	1	.2	2.7	2.6
COX VALLEY	4500	5/01/03	---	28.0E	44.8	37.1	PARADISE PARK SNOTEL	5500	5/01/03	---	60.1	96.0	74.8
COYOTE HILL	4200	5/01/03	0	.0	2.2	2.6	PARK CK RIDGE SNOTEL	4600	5/01/03	61	32.4	57.5	39.8
DAILY CREEK SNOTEL	5780	5/01/03	23	8.9	3.1	5.3	PETERSON MDW SNOTEL	7200	5/01/03	---	15.1	8.2	11.0
DEER PARK	5200	5/01/03	---	12.0E	19.6	15.2	PIGTAIL PEAK SNOTEL	5900	5/01/03	123	53.0	65.7	56.5
DEVILS PARK	5900	4/30/03	88	38.6	59.8	44.7	PIKE CREEK SNOTEL	5930	5/01/03	41	17.3	33.6	25.9
DISCOVERY BASIN	7050	4/30/03	39	13.4	6.2	9.4	PIPESTONE PASS	7200	4/26/03	7	1.9	2.2	4.8
DIX HILL	6400	4/27/03	4	1.5	2.9	3.8	POPE RIDGE SNOTEL	3540	5/01/03	16	7.3	6.4	7.0
DOMMERIE FLATS	2200	4/29/03	0	.0	.0	--	POSTILL LAKE CAN.	4200	4/30/03	13	4.2	6.1	5.3
EAST FORK R.S.	5400	4/30/03	0	.0	.0	.7	POTATO HILL SNOTEL	4500	5/01/03	---	20.8	30.2	18.9
EASY PASS AM	5200	5/01/03	---	75.5E	110.0	86.9	QUARTZ PEAK SNOTEL	4700	5/01/03	---	7.0	18.0	14.9
ELBOW LAKE SNOTEL	3200	5/01/03	32	15.5	44.3	32.5	RAGGED RIDGE	3330	4/30/03	0	.0	.0	--
EMERY CREEK SNOTEL	4350	5/01/03	---	5.9	6.9	7.4	RAINY PASS SNOTEL	4780	5/01/03	---	34.2	49.1	43.2
ENDERBY CAN.	5800	4/27/03	108	39.8	51.6	43.5	REX RIVER SNOTEL	1900	5/01/03	25	11.9	47.3	19.0
ESPERON CK. UP CAN.	5050	4/27/03	33	10.8	19.5	15.4	ROCKER PEAK SNOTEL	8000	5/01/03	51	17.5	12.6	16.6
FATTY CREEK	5500	4/28/03	48	18.6	25.4	23.4	SADDLE MTN SNOTEL	7900	5/01/03	80	28.9	25.2	26.5
FISH CREEK	8000	5/02/03	42	13.2	8.1	11.5	SALMON MDWS SNOTEL	4500	5/01/03	4	1.3	.2	3.9
FISH LAKE	3370	4/29/03	30	14.9	29.0	23.1	SASSE RIDGE SNOTEL	4200	5/01/03	52	13.2	46.7	32.3
FISH LAKE SNOTEL	3370	5/01/03	38	15.3	26.8	28.8	SAVAGE PASS SNOTEL	6170	5/01/03	69	27.1	28.1	25.2
FLATTOP MTN SNOTEL	6300	5/01/03	107	43.1	56.9	46.7	SAWMILL RIDGE	4700	4/29/03	49	20.8	33.2	32.8
FLEECER RIDGE	7500	4/29/03	28	9.1	8.2	8.7	SHEEP CANYON SNOTEL	4050	5/01/03	---	16.0	44.9	32.0
FREEZEOUT CK. TRAIL	3500	4/29/03	6	1.9	9.7	6.4	SHERWIN SNOTEL	3200	5/01/03	---	.0	6.0	3.3
FROHNER MDWS SNOTEL	6480	5/01/03	21	7.2	6.5	6.5	SILVER STAR MTN CAN.	5600	4/28/03	67	26.2	36.1	30.1
GRASS MOUNTAIN #2	2900	4/29/03	0	.0	8.0	--	SKALKAKO SNOTEL	7260	5/01/03	71	27.2	24.8	25.4
GRAVE CRK SNOTEL	4300	5/01/03	---	9.4	9.7	7.0	SKITWISH RIDGE	5110	4/29/03	36	15.3	36.9	25.8
GRAYSTOKE LAKE CAN.	5500	4/30/03	39	11.5	--	16.2	SKOOKUM CREEK SNOTEL	3920	5/01/03	---	4.5	50.3	14.6
GREEN LAKE	6000	5/01/03	---	30.0E	--	37.4	SLIDE ROCK MOUNTAIN	7100	4/29/03	38	15.5	13.1	15.7
GREEN LAKE SNOTEL	6000	5/01/03	60	20.2	25.1	24.6	SOURDOUGH GULCH SNTL	4000	5/01/03	0	.0	.0	--
GREYBACK RES CAN.	4700	5/01/03	13	4.1	5.7	7.0	SPENCER MDW SNOTEL	3400	5/01/03	---	11.4	42.3	21.8
GRIFFIN CR DIVIDE	5150	4/30/03	0	.0	5.0	4.9	SPIRIT LAKE SNOTEL	3100	5/01/03	---	.0	.0	--
GROUSE CAMP SNOTEL	5380	5/01/03	---	15.9	17.9	11.1	SPOTTED BEAR MTN.	7000	5/01/03	10	4.4	10.8	7.6
HAMILTON HILL CAN.	4550	4/29/03	18	6.6	13.8	10.6	SOURDOUGH GULCH SNTL	4000	5/01/03	0	.0	.0	--
HAND CREEK SNOTEL	5030	5/01/03	5	1.7	3.9	6.8	STAHL PEAK SNOTEL	6030	5/01/03	---	36.1	47.8	37.1
HARTS PASS SNOTEL	6500	5/01/03	86	36.3	53.8	47.7	STAMPEDE PASS SNOTEL	3860	5/01/03	63	28.7	59.4	42.7
HELL ROARING DIVIDE	5770	4/28/03	57	22.3	28.8	29.0	STEMPLE PASS	6600	4/25/03	17	5.4	8.2	9.3
HERRIG JUNCTION	4850	4/29/03	50	22.0	29.2	22.9	STEVENS PASS SNOTEL	4070	5/01/03	62	25.8	43.1	35.2
HIGH RIDGE SNOTEL	4980	5/01/03	---	11.4	18.8	15.9	STEVENS PASS SAND SD	3700	4/29/03	49	20.6	34.2	27.5
HOLBROOK	4530	4/28/03	0	.0	.3	1.2	STORM LAKE	7780	4/30/03	46	15.7	11.5	14.3
HOODOO BASIN SNOTEL	6050	5/01/03	99	40.0	57.7	45.7	STRYKER BASIN	6180	4/29/03	72	30.7	38.4	32.6
HUMBOLDT GLCH SNOTEL	4250	5/01/03	---	.0	12.9	5.5	SUMMERLAND RES CAN.	4200	4/30/03	0	.0	3.4	5.1
HURRICANE	4500	5/01/03	---	12.5E	20.8	17.9	SUNSET SNOTEL	5540	5/01/03	---	13.6	25.5	28.7
INTERGAARD	6450	4/28/03	17	6.7	3.0	6.1	SURPRISE LKS SNOTEL	4250	5/01/03	---	38.1	54.5	41.8
ISINTOK LAKE CAN.	5100	4/30/03	7	2.3	4.8	5.4	TEN MILE LOWER	6600	4/25/03	6	1.7	3.6	4.5
JUNE LAKE SNOTEL	3200	5/01/03	---	15.3	58.8	29.6	TEN MILE MIDDLE	6800	4/25/03	28	9.5	8.2	11.2
KLESILKWA CAN.	3450	4/28/03	0	.0	14.0	4.8	TEUNDER BASIN	4200	4/29/03	42	18.0	25.5	21.2
KRAFT CREEK SNOTEL	4750	5/01/03	---	2.4	8.9	5.2	TINKHAM CREEK SNOTEL	3000	5/01/03	---	11.6	35.0	20.0
LESTER CREEK	3100	4/29/03	0	.0	29.8	16.6	TOUCHET SNOTEL	5530	5/01/03	48	22.0	33.1	26.2
LIGHTNING LAKE CAN.	3700	4/29/03	16	5.8	9.9	9.9	TRINKUS LAKE	6100	5/01/03	68	32.4	45.2	40.8

SNOW COURSE		ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1971-00
TROUGH #2	SNOTEL	5310	5/01/03	8	4.2	2.4	4.3
TROUT CREEK	CAN.	5650	4/28/03	0	.0	5.3	3.7
TRUMAN CREEK		4060	4/29/03	0	.0	.0	.1
TUNNEL AVENUE		2450	4/30/03	4	2.2	19.4	12.0
TV MOUNTAIN		6800	4/28/03	37	14.3	17.9	17.4
TWELVEMILE SNOTEL		5600	5/01/03	20	6.8	10.3	8.8
TWIN CAMP		4100	4/29/03	31	12.5	19.7	20.3
TWIN CREEKS		3580	5/01/03	0	.0	4.5	1.7
TWIN LAKES SNOTEL		6400	5/01/03	89	41.5	43.2	38.5

SNOW COURSE		ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1971-00
UPPER HOLLAND LAKE		6200	5/01/03	72	33.8	41.4	33.5
UPPER WHEELER SNOTEL		4400	5/01/03	10	4.1	7.9	6.3
VASEUX CREEK	CAN.	4250	5/01/03	0	.0	.0	2.3
WARM SPRINGS SNOTEL		7800	5/01/03	---	28.0	20.2	23.7
WATSON LAKES	AM	4500	5/01/03	---	56.0E	73.0	64.0
WEASEL DIVIDE		5450	4/28/03	67	25.8	38.2	32.7
WELLS CREEK	SNOTEL	4200	5/01/03	54	21.7	34.7	--
WHITE PASS ES SNOTEL		4500	5/01/03	38	15.2	22.7	21.4
WHITE ROCKS MTN CAN.		7200	5/01/03	34	13.0	26.2	21.0

NRCS Natural Resources
Conservation Service

April 1, 2003 - Snowpack, Precipitation and Reservoir Conditions at a Glance (Water Year = October 1, 2002 - Current Date)





Natural Resources Conservation Service

Washington State
Snow, Water and Climate Services

Program Contacts

RL "Gus" Hughbanks
State Conservationist
Spokane State Office
W. 316 Boone Ave., Suite 450
Spokane, WA 99201-2348
phone: 509-323-2961
fax: 509-323-2979
gus.hughbanks@wa.usda.gov

Scott Pattee
Water Supply Specialist
Washington Snow Survey Office
2021 E. College Way, Suite 214
Mount Vernon, WA 98273-2873
phone: 360-428-7684
fax: 360-424-6172
scott.pattee@wa.usda.gov

Jon Lea
Assistant DCO Supervisor
Oregon Data Collection Office
101 SW Main St, Suite 1300
Portland, OR 97204
Phone: 503-414-3267
Fax: 503-414-3277
jon.lea@or.usda.gov

Chris Pacheco
Resource Conservationist
National Water and Climate Center
101 SW Main St., Suite 1600
Portland, OR 97204-3224
phone: 503-414-3056
fax: 503-414-3101
cpacheco@wcc.nrcs.usda.gov

Helpful Internet Addresses

NRCS Snow Survey and Climate Services Homepages

Washington:

<http://www.wa.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/snow.htm>

Oregon:

<http://www.or.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/snow.htm>

Idaho:

<http://idsnow.id.nrcs.usda.gov>

National Water and Climate Center (NWCC):

<http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov>

NWCC Anonymous FTP Server:

<ftp.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov>

USDA-NRCS Agency Homepages

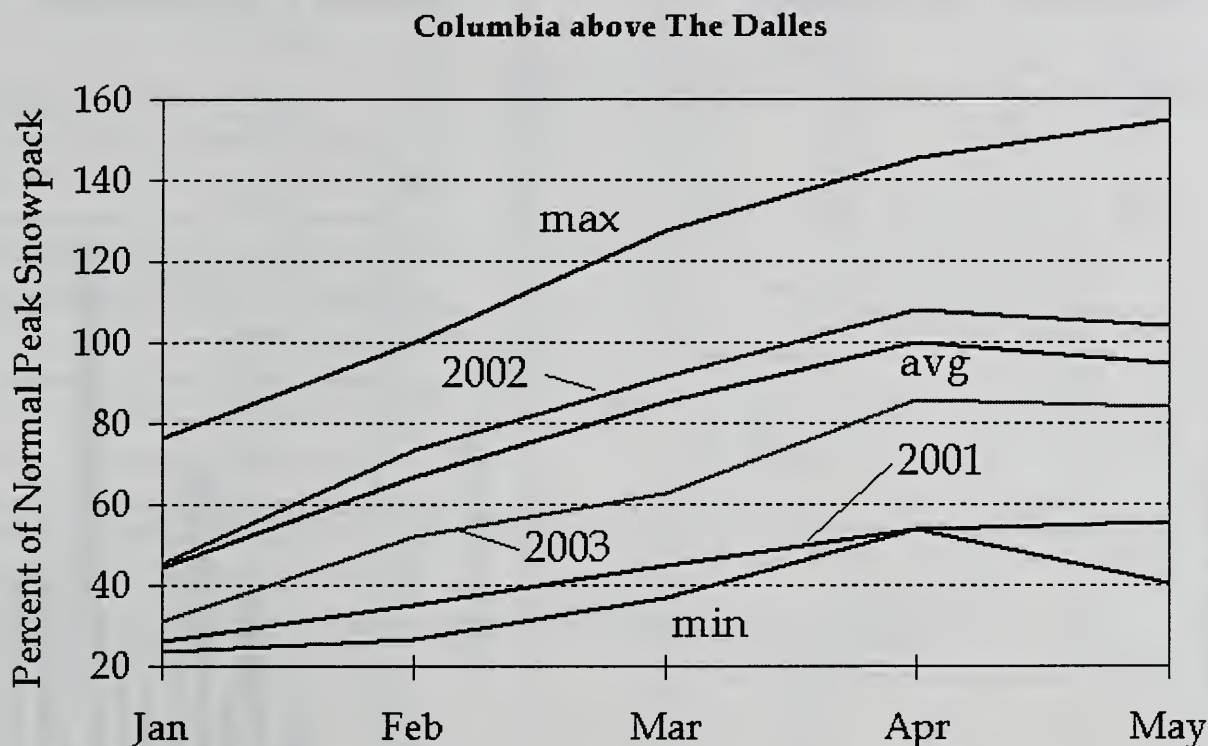
Washington:

<http://www.wa.nrcs.usda.gov/nrcs>

NRCS National:

<http://www.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov>

Columbia Basin Snowpack Summary



May 1, 2003

Essentially, the Columbia Basin snowpack above The Dalles remained unchanged from last month. The Columbia snowpack now stands at 89 percent of average, compared to 86 percent on April 1. The snowpacks in the Columbia sub-basins also increased slightly. The snowpack above Castlegar is at 87 percent, above Grande Coulee at 88 percent and above Ice Harbor at 98 percent. The percent of peak index at The Dalles decreased from 86 percent to 84 percent of average.

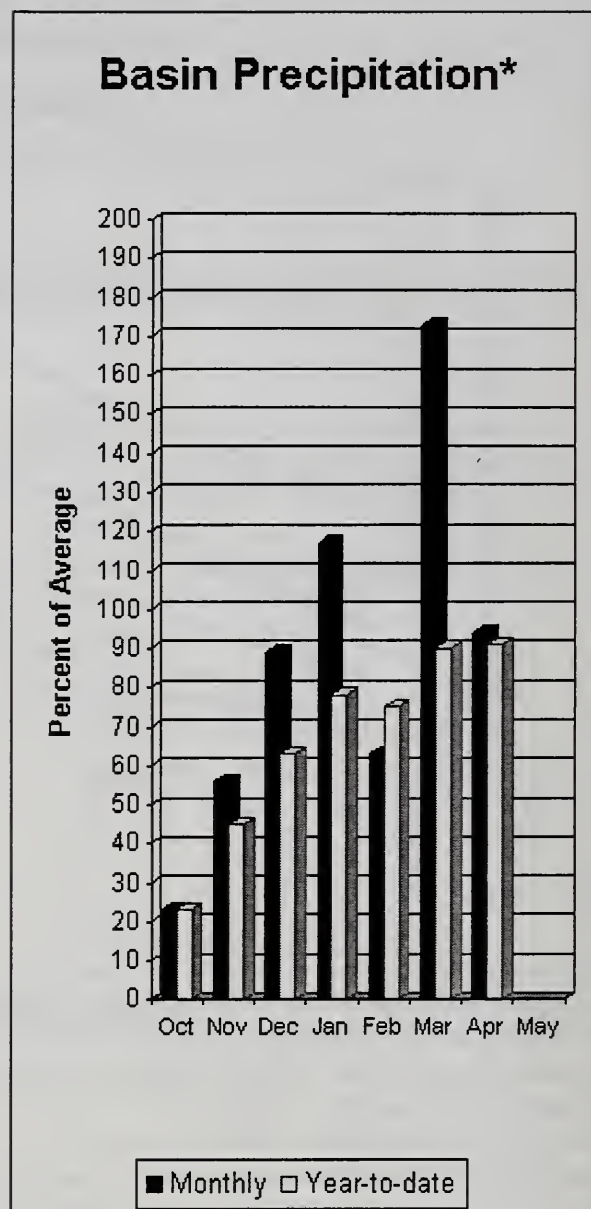
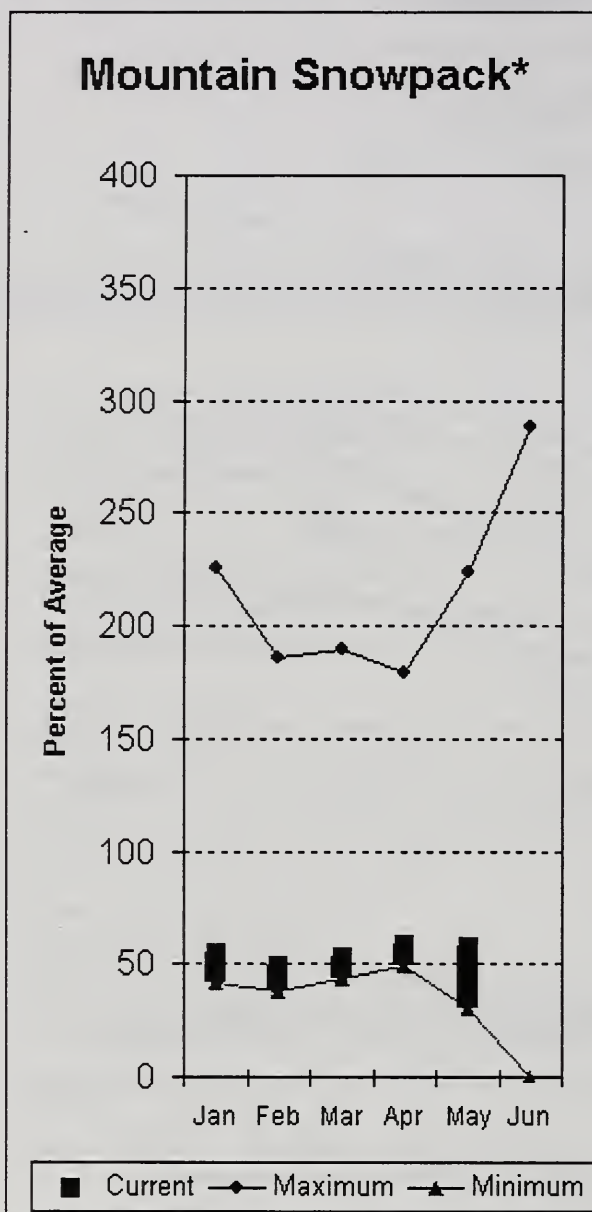
The mountain precipitation can only be described as "streaky" during the month of April. Most of eastern Oregon and southern Idaho received much above average precipitation during April. However, the Snake River headwaters received less than 50 percent of average. Northern Idaho and western Montana received below average mountain precipitation, with most SNOTEL sites reporting between 70 and 90 percent of average. The Cascades precipitation was a mixed bag. It varied from less than 50 percent in the north, gradually increasing to above average in the central portion, to near normal in the southern portion. Based on the snowpack data, precipitation was above average over the Columbia mainstem in Canada.

Significant snowpack improvement is noted over the Columbia mainstem in Canada, the Kettle River, the mountains rimming the Snake River Plain, much of eastern Oregon, and the Salmon River. The snowpack worsened over the Kootenai, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Yakima, and the Clearwater basins.

Even though the overall snowpack remained essentially unchanged from April 1, and snowpack conditions improved in several sub-basins, the snowpack remains much below average over a large area. Almost all of the Oregon snowpack remains much below average. It's better than last month, but still much below average.

Likewise, the snowpack to the south of the Snake River remains much below average, as it has all year. Water supply conditions are dismal over that area. Below to much below average snowpack conditions also exist over much of the northern Cascades, and portions of the Idaho panhandle, western Montana, and the Kootenai River Basin. Thank goodness for the significant increase in the Columbia headwater snowpack in Canada.

Spokane River Basin



*Based on selected stations

The May 1 forecasts for summer runoff within the Spokane River Basin are 72% of average near Post Falls and 75% at Long Lake. The forecast is based on a basin snowpack that is 58% of average and precipitation that is 91% of average for the water year. Precipitation for April was near normal at 94% of average. Streamflow on the Spokane River at Long Lake, was 78% of average for April. May 1 storage in Coeur d'Alene Lake, was 159,900-acre feet, 64% of average and 67% of capacity. Snowpack at Quartz Peak SNOTEL site was 47% of average with 7 inches of water content. Average temperatures in the Spokane basin were near normal for April and 2 degrees above for the water year.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.

Spokane River Basin

SPOKANE RIVER BASIN Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2003

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						
		Chance Of Exceeding *						
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
POKANE near Post Falls (2)	MAY-SEP	870	1115	1280	72	1450	1690	1771
	MAY-JUL	820	1050	1210	72	1365	1605	1673
POKANE at Long Lake (2)	MAY-JUL	980	1250	1430	75	1610	1880	1905
	MAY-SEP	1130	1410	1600	75	1790	2070	2126

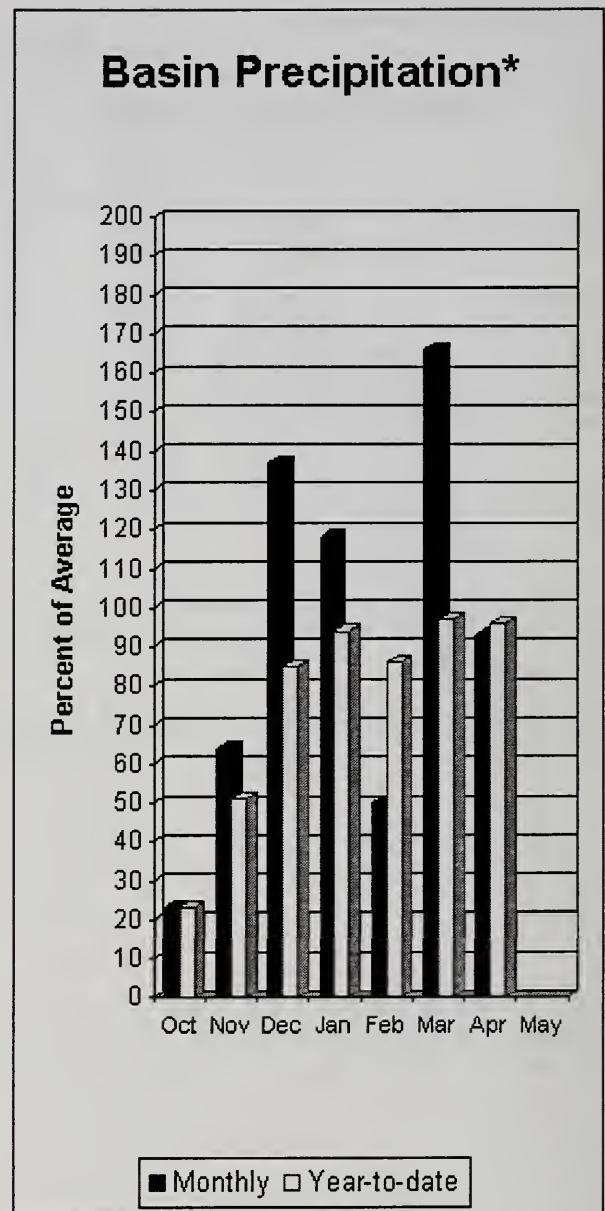
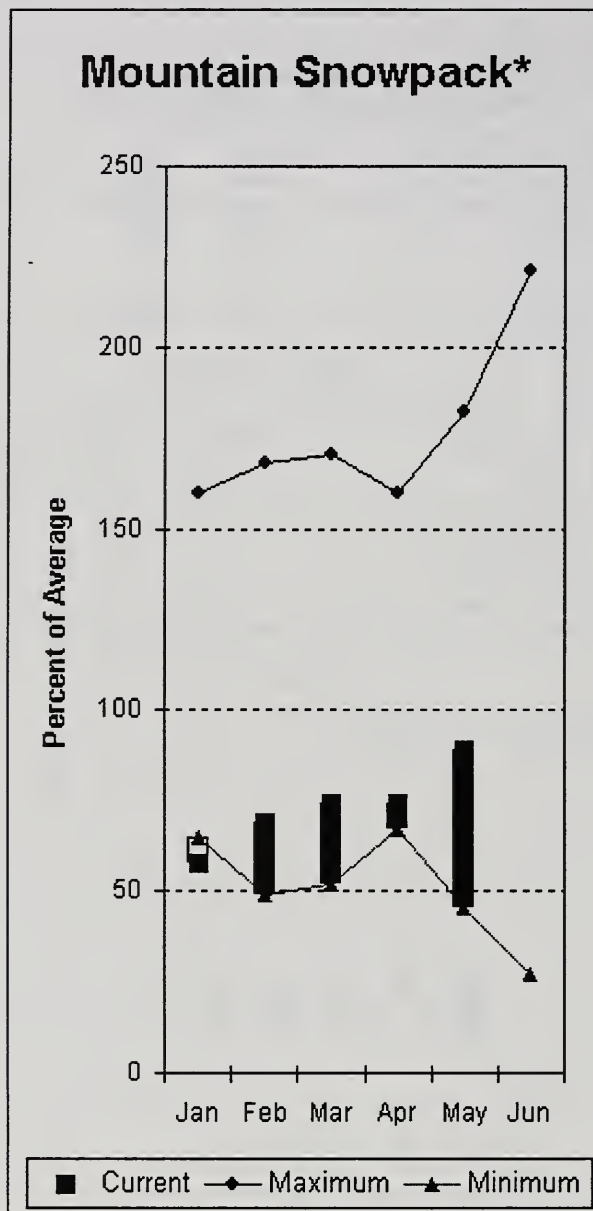
SPOKANE RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April					SPOKANE RIVER BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2003			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
COEUR D'ALENE	238.5	159.9	273.5	249.7	SPOKANE RIVER	10	42	58
					NEWMAN LAKE	1	39	47

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- 1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- 2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

Colville - Pend Oreille River Basins



*Based on selected stations

The May – September average forecast for the Kettle River streamflow is 80%, Colville at Kettle Falls is 90%, and Priest River near the town of Priest River is 87%. April streamflow was 111% of average on the Pend Oreille River, 106% on the Columbia at Birchbank and 114% on the Kettle River. May 1 snow cover was 89% of average in the Pend Oreille Basin River Basin and 91% at 5 sites in the Kettle River Basin. Bunchgrass Meadows SNOTEL site had 301 inches of snow water on the snow pillow. Normally Bunchgrass would have 28.6 inches on May 1. Precipitation during April was 93% of average, bringing the year-to-date precipitation to 96% of average. Reservoir storage in Roosevelt Lake was reported to be 201% of average and 83% of capacity on May 1. Average temperatures were near normal for April and 2 degrees above for the water year.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.

Colville - Pend Oreille River Basins

Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2003

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		Chance Of Exceeding *						
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
PEND OREILLE Lake Inflow (2)	MAY-JUL	7480	8380	8990	85	9600	10500	10600
	MAY-SEP	8320	9320	10000	85	10680	11680	11800
PRIEST near Priest River (1,2)	MAY-JUL	430	505	540	88	575	650	616
	MAY-SEP	450	545	585	87	625	720	670
PEND OREILLE bl Box Canyon (2)	MAY-JUL	7170	8290	9050	85	9810	10930	10700
	MAY-SEP	8170	9320	10100	85	10880	12030	11900
CHAMOKANE CREEK near Long Lake	MAY-AUG	3.7	5.8	7.3	72	8.8	10.9	10.2
	JUL-AUG	2.60	2.80	3.00	86	3.20	3.40	3.51
COLVILLE at Kettle Falls	MAY-SEP	57	73	83	90	93	109	92
	MAY-JUL	50	63	72	91	81	94	79
KETTLE near Laurier	MAY-SEP	1050	1210	1320	80	1430	1590	1641
	MAY-JUL	1000	1140	1230	80	1320	1460	1542
COLUMBIA at Birchbank (1,2)	MAY-JUL	24132	26379	27400	85	28420	30670	32090
	MAY-SEP	30736	33599	34900	86	36200	39060	40760
COLUMBIA at Grand Coulee Dm (1,2)	MAY-SEP	42323	46502	48400	84	50300	54480	57921
	MAY-JUL	34513	37942	39500	83	41060	44490	47614

COLVILLE - PEND OREILLE RIVER BASINS Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April

COLVILLE - PEND OREILLE RIVER BASINS Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2003

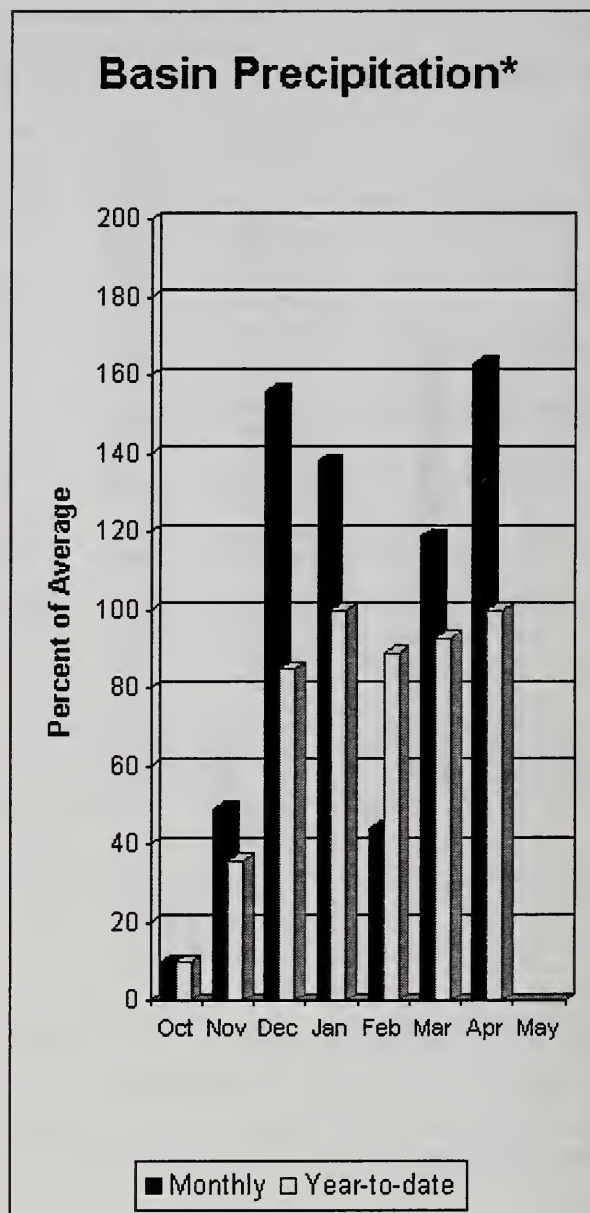
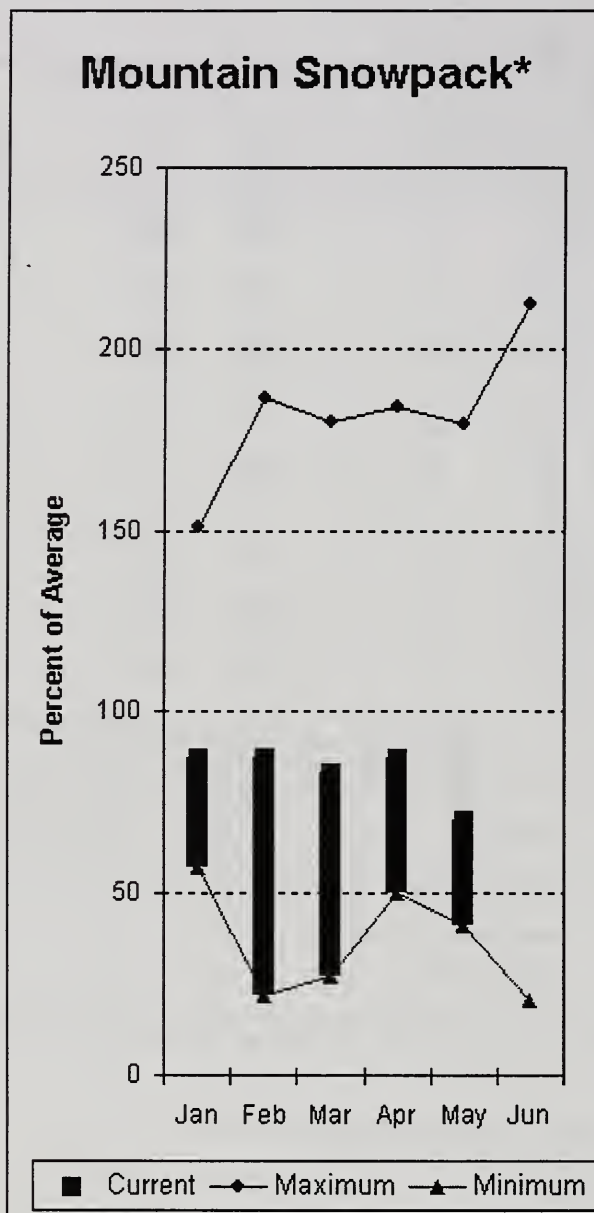
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
ROOSEVELT	5232.0	4281.1	1684.6	1873.7	COLVILLE RIVER	0	0	0
BANKS	715.0	675.1	658.2	591.1	PEND OREILLE RIVER	10	70	86
					KETTLE RIVER	6	97	86

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
 (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

Okanogan - Methow River Basins



*Based on selected stations

Summer runoff average forecast for the Okanogan River is 74%, Similkameen River is 72%, Methow River is 85%, Salmon Creek is 71% and Beaver Creek is 85%. May 1 snow cover on the Okanogan was 72% of average and Methow was 76%. April precipitation in the Okanogan-Methow was 163% of average, with precipitation for the water year at 100% of average. April streamflow for the Methow River was 76% of average, 64% for the Okanogan River and 82% for the Similkameen. Snow-water content at Salmon Meadows SNOTEL was 1.3 inches. Average for this site is 3.9 inches on May 1. Combined storage in the Conconully Reservoirs was 9,400-acre feet, which is 40% of capacity and 49% of the May 1 average. Temperatures were 2 degrees below normal for the past month and 2 degrees above normal for the water year.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.

Okanogan - Methow River Basins

Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2003

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		Chance Of Exceeding *						
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF) (% AVG.)		30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
SIMILKAMEEN near Nighthawk (1)	MAY-JUL	600	795	880	72	965	1155	1220
	MAY-SEP	670	865	955	72	1045	1245	1325
OKANOGAN near Tonasket (1)	MAY-JUL	560	895	1050	75	1205	1535	1403
	MAY-SEP	650	1015	1180	74	1350	1710	1589
SALMON CREEK near Conconully	MAY-JUL	2.4	8.4	12.4	71	16.4	22	17.4
	MAY-SEP	2.5	8.7	13.0	71	17.3	24	18.3
BEAVER CREEK below SF near Twisp	MAY-SEP	5.5	7.9	9.5	85	11.1	13.5	11.2
	MAY-JUL	4.6	6.9	8.5	84	10.1	12.4	10.1
METHOW RIVER near Pateros	MAY-SEP	645	705	750	85	795	855	882
	MAY-JUL	590	645	685	85	725	780	808

OKANOGAN - METHOW RIVER BASINS Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April					OKANOGAN - METHOW RIVER BASINS Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2003			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
SALMON LAKE	10.5	3.6	3.7	8.9	OKANOGAN RIVER	20	67	72
CONCONULLY RESERVOIR	13.0	5.8	4.1	10.1	OMAK CREEK	1	113	116
					SANPOIL RIVER	0	0	0
					SIMILKAMEEN RIVER	4	41	53
					TOATS COULEE CREEK	0	0	0
					CONCONULLY LAKE	1	650	33
					METHOW RIVER	3	70	76

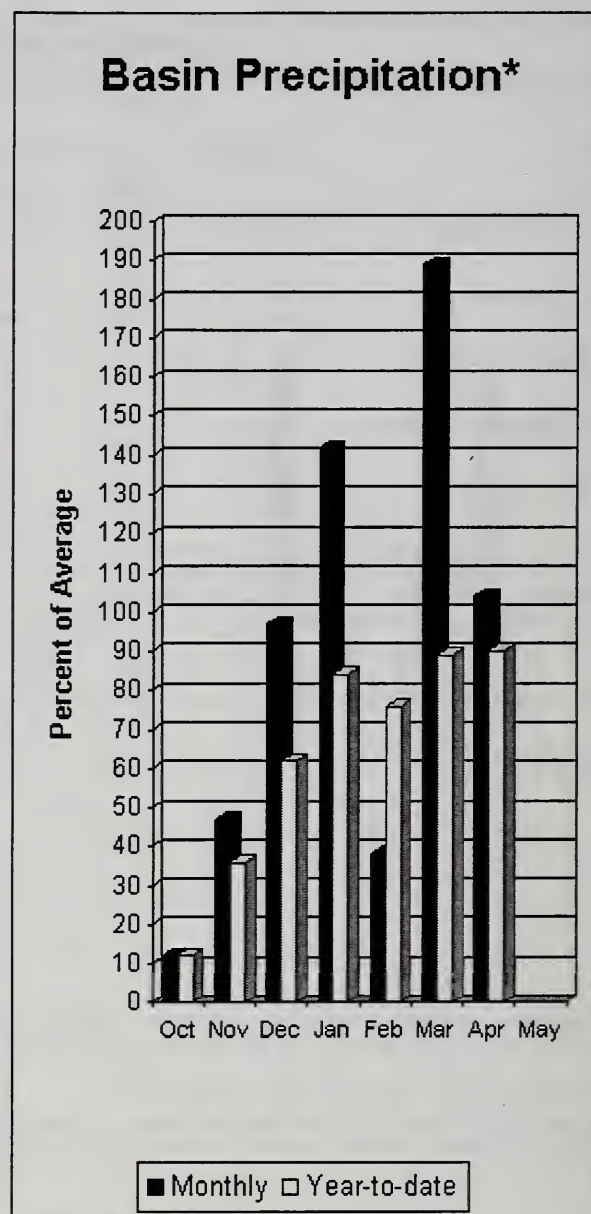
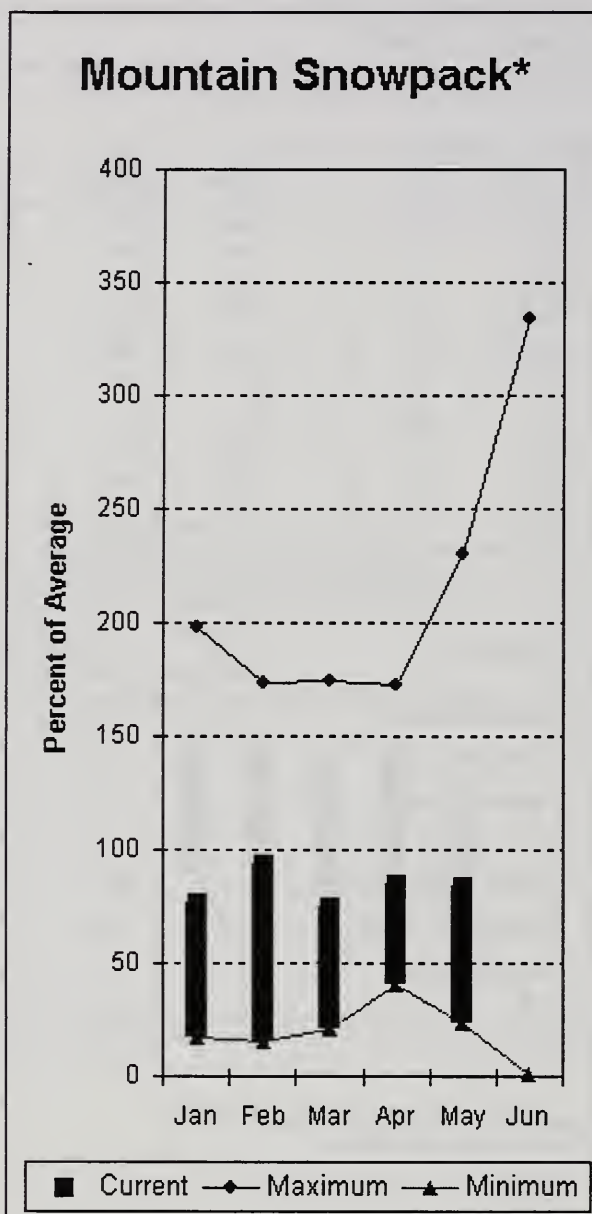
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

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(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

Wenatchee - Chelan River Basins



*Based on selected stations

Precipitation during April was 104% of average in the basin and 90% for the year-to-date. Runoff for Entiat River is forecast to be 83% of average for the summer. The May-September average forecast for Chelan River is 82%, Wenatchee River at Plain is 80%, Stehekin River is 87%, Icicle Creek near Leavenworth is 100% and Stemilt Creek is 65%. April average streamflows on the Chelan River were 105% and on the Wenatchee River 99%. May 1 snowpack in the Wenatchee River Basin was 72% of average; the Chelan, 83%; the Entiat, 104%; Stemilt Creek, 65% and Colockum Creek, 98%. Reservoir storage in Lake Chelan was 295,400-acre feet, 111% of May 1 average and 44% of capacity. Lyman Lake SNOTEL had the most snow water with 60.2 inches of water. This site would normally have 67.2 inches on May 1. Temperatures were 1-2 degrees below normal for April and 2-3 degrees above normal for the water year.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.

Wenatchee - Chelan River Basins

Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2003

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)				
		90% (1000AF)		70% (1000AF)		Chance Of Exceeding * 50% (Most Probable) (1000AF) (% AVG.)			30% (1000AF)		10% (1000AF)	
CHELAN RIVER near Chelan	MAY-SEP	750	815	860	82	905	975	1050				
	MAY-JUL	645	710	750	82	790	855	911				
STEHEKIN near STEHEKIN	MAY-SEP	565	615	645	87	675	725	746				
	MAY-JUL	455	500	530	86	560	605	618				
ENTIAT RIVER near Ardenvoir	MAY-SEP	159	172	181	83	190	205	217				
	MAY-JUL	142	155	164	84	173	186	195				
WENATCHEE at Plain	MAY-SEP	700	775	825	80	875	950	1035				
	MAY-JUL	640	695	735	80	775	830	915				
WENATCHEE R. at Peshastin	MAY-SEP	592	883	1080	77	1277	1570	1407				
	MAY-JUL	530	789	965	77	1141	1400	1254				
STEMILT nr Wenatchee (miners in)	MAY-SEP	45	72	90	65	108	135	138				
ICE CREEK near Leavenworth	MAY-SEP	290	300	305	100	310	320	305				
	MAY-JUL	255	270	280	100	290	305	279				
COLUMBIA R. bl Rock Island Dam (2)	MAY-SEP	47179	50764	53200	85	55640	59220	62987				
	MAY-JUL	38021	41521	43900	84	46280	49780	52239				

WENATCHEE - CHELAN RIVER BASINS Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***		
		This Year	Last Year	Avg
CHELAN LAKE	676.1	295.4	196.2	265.6

WENATCHEE - CHELAN RIVER BASINS Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2003

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		Last Yr	Average
CHELAN LAKE BASIN	4	65	83
ENTIAT RIVER	1	114	104
WENATCHEE RIVER	11	62	72
SQUILCHUCK CREEK	0	0	0
STEMILT CREEK	1	52	65
COLOCKUM CREEK	1	175	98

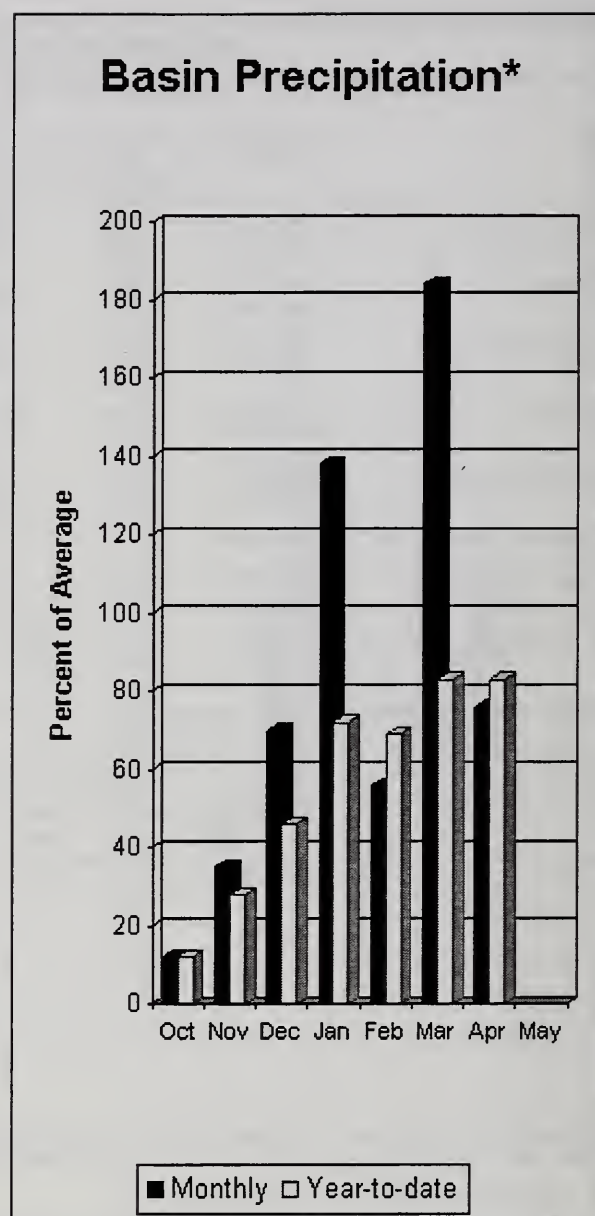
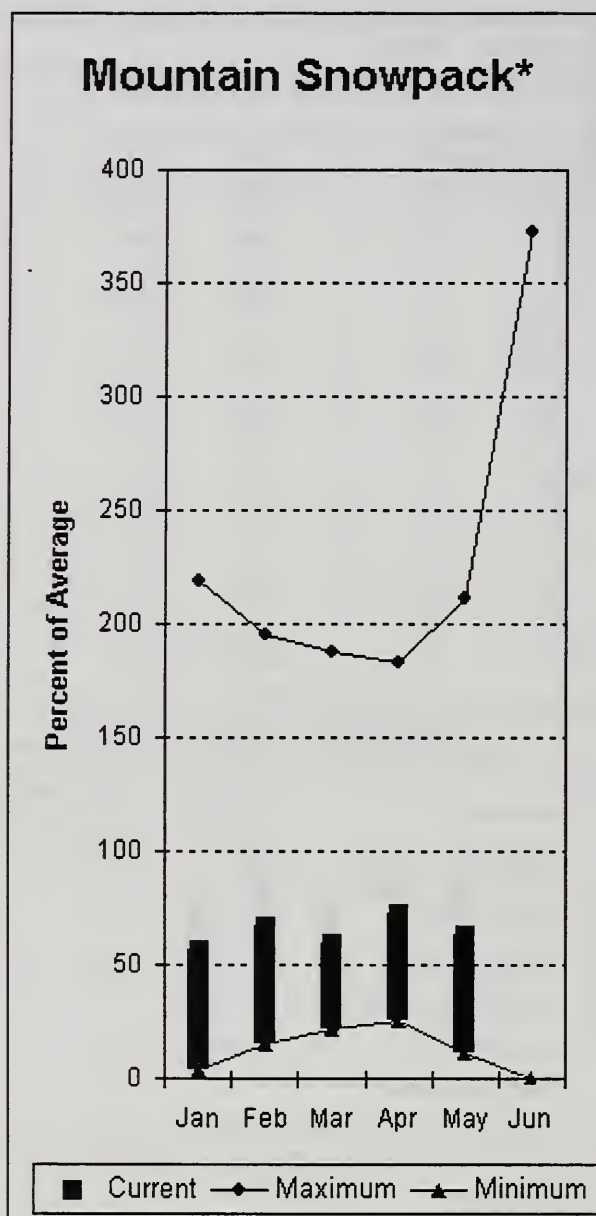
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

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(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.

(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

Upper Yakima River Basin



*Based on selected stations

May 1 reservoir storage for the Upper Yakima reservoirs was 616,900-acre feet, 99% of average. Forecasts for the Yakima River at Cle Elum are 79% of average and the Teanaway River near Cle Elum is at 62%. Lake inflows are all forecasted to fall into the same range this summer. April streamflows within the basin were Yakima near Cle Elum at 89% and Cle Elum River near Roslyn at 91%. May 1 snowpack was 63% based upon 9 snow courses and SNOTEL readings within the Upper Yakima Basin. Precipitation was 76% of average for April and 83% year-to-date for water. Volume forecasts for the Yakima Basin are for natural flow. As such, they may differ from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's forecast for the total water supply available, which includes irrigation return flow.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.

Upper Yakima River Basin

Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2003

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>						30-Yr Avg (1000AF)
		=====		Chance Of Exceeding *		=====		
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
KEECHELUS LAKE INFLOW	MAY-JUL	53	63	70	76	77	87	92
	MAY-SEP	57	70	78	76	86	99	103
KACHESS LAKE INFLOW	MAY-JUL	56	63	68	81	73	80	84
	MAY-SEP	61	69	75	82	81	89	92
CLE ELUM LAKE INFLOW	MAY-JUL	240	255	270	81	285	300	332
	MAY-SEP	260	285	300	80	315	340	373
YAKIMA at Cle Elum	MAY-JUL	435	475	505	80	535	575	634
	MAY-SEP	480	530	565	79	600	650	714
TEANAWAY near Cle Elum	MAY-JUL	42	51	57	63	63	72	91
	MAY-SEP	44	53	59	62	65	74	95

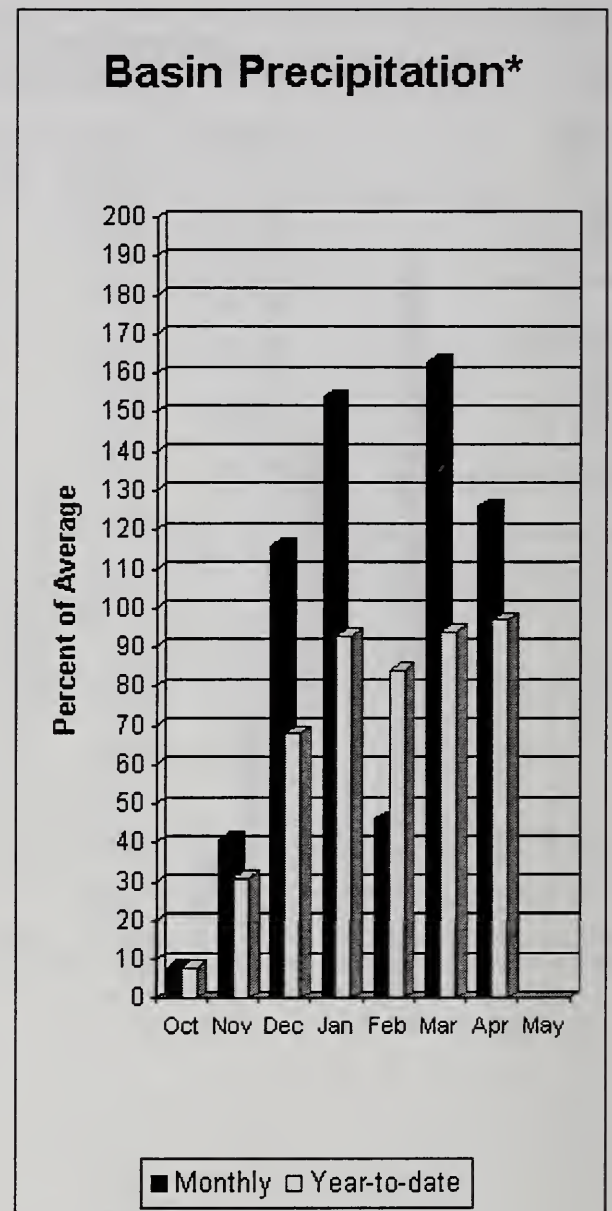
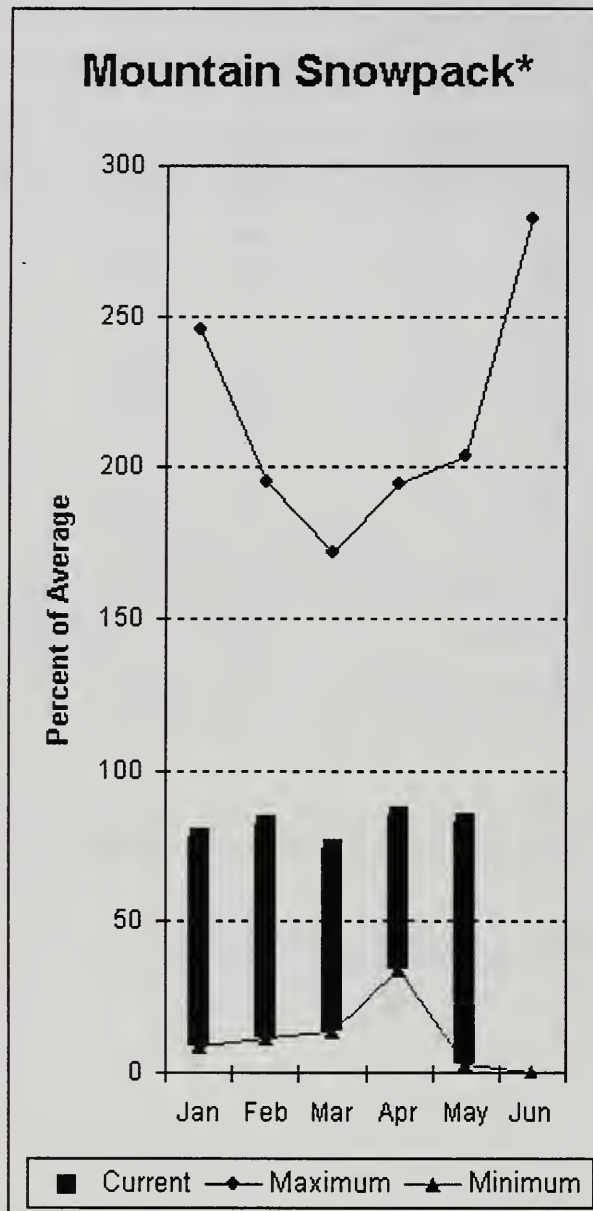
UPPER YAKIMA RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April					UPPER YAKIMA RIVER BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2003			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
KEECHELUS	157.8	92.2	122.4	125.6	UPPER YAKIMA RIVER	9	45	63
KACHESS	239.0	200.5	148.6	188.3				
CLE ELUM	436.9	324.2	276.1	307.0				

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

Lower Yakima River Basin



*Based on selected stations

April average streamflows within the basin were: Yakima River near Parker, 96%; Naches River near Naches, 113%; and Yakima River at Kiona, 87%. May 1 reservoir storage for Bumping and Rimrock reservoirs was 221,500-acre feet, 131% of average. Forecast averages for Yakima River near Parker are 79%; American River near Nile, 89%; Ahtanum Creek, 92%; and Klickitat River near Glenwood, 85%. May 1 snowpack was 83% based upon 7 snow courses and SNOTEL readings within the Lower Yakima Basin and 91% of average in the Ahtanum Creek Basin. Precipitation was 126% of average for April and 97% year-to-date for water. Temperatures were near normal for the month and 2 degrees above average for the water year. Volume forecasts for Yakima Basin are for natural flow. As such, they May differ from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's forecast for the total water supply available, which includes irrigation return flow.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.

Lower Yakima River Basin

Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2003

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<===== Drier =====		Future Conditions		===== Wetter =====>>		30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		=====		Chance Of Exceeding *		=====		
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
BUMPING LAKE INFLOW	MAY-SEP	74	85	92	81	99	110	113
	MAY-JUL	70	78	84	82	90	98	103
AMERICAN RIVER near Nile	MAY-SEP	74	83	89	89	95	104	100
	MAY-JUL	66	74	80	89	86	94	90
RIMROCK LAKE INFLOW	MAY-SEP	143	158	169	82	180	195	207
	MAY-JUL	121	132	140	83	148	159	168
NACHES near Naches	MAY-SEP	410	465	500	74	535	590	679
	MAY-JUL	370	415	445	74	475	520	599
AHTANUM CREEK nr Tampico (2)	MAY-SEP	26	32	35	92	38	44	38
	MAY-JUL	24	29	32	94	35	40	34
YAKIMA near Parker	MAY-SEP	1000	1100	1170	79	1240	1340	1479
	MAY-JUL	870	960	1020	79	1080	1170	1292
KLICKITAT near Glenwood	MAY-JUN	72	80	86	84	92	100	102
	MAY-SEP	96	107	115	85	123	134	135

LOWER YAKIMA RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April

LOWER YAKIMA RIVER BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2003

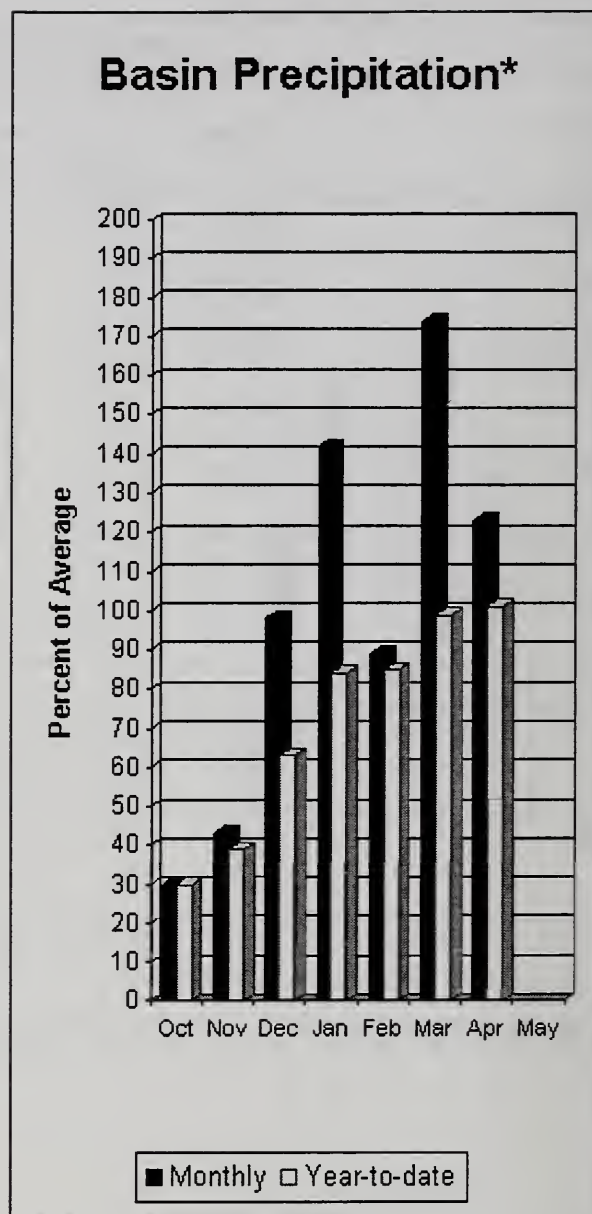
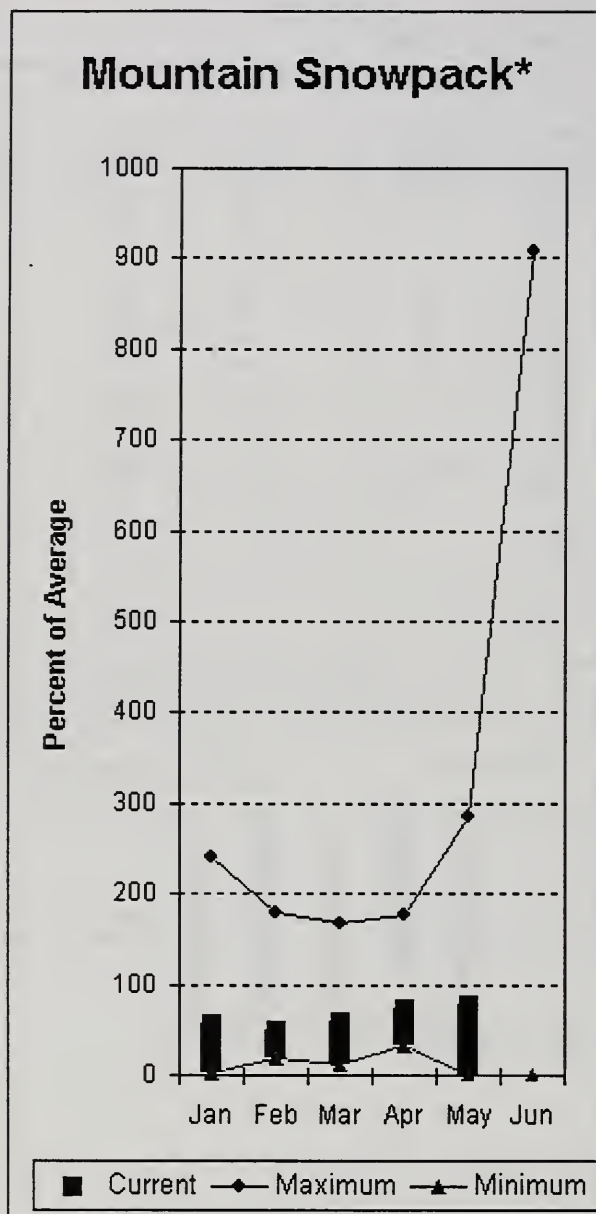
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
BUMPING LAKE	33.7	30.2	26.2	19.6				
RIMROCK	198.0	191.3	157.4	149.4				

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
 (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

Walla Walla River Basin



*Based on selected stations

April precipitation was 123% of average, maintaining the year-to-date precipitation at 101% of average. Snowpack in the basin was 79% of average. Streamflow forecasts are 86% of average for Mill Creek and 90% for the SF Walla Walla near Milton-Freewater. April streamflow was 165% of average for the Walla Walla River. Average temperatures were near normal for April and 1 degree above average for the water year.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.

Walla Walla River Basin

Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2003

		<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>						
Forecast Point	Forecast Period	=====		Chance Of Exceeding *		=====		30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
MILL CREEK at Walla Walla	MAY-SEP	4.50	6.40	7.70	86	9.00	10.90	9.00
	MAY-JUL	4.30	6.20	7.50	84	8.80	10.70	8.90
SF WALLA WALLA near Milton-Freewater	MAY-JUL	26	30	33	89	36	40	37
	MAY-SEP	37	42	45	90	48	53	50

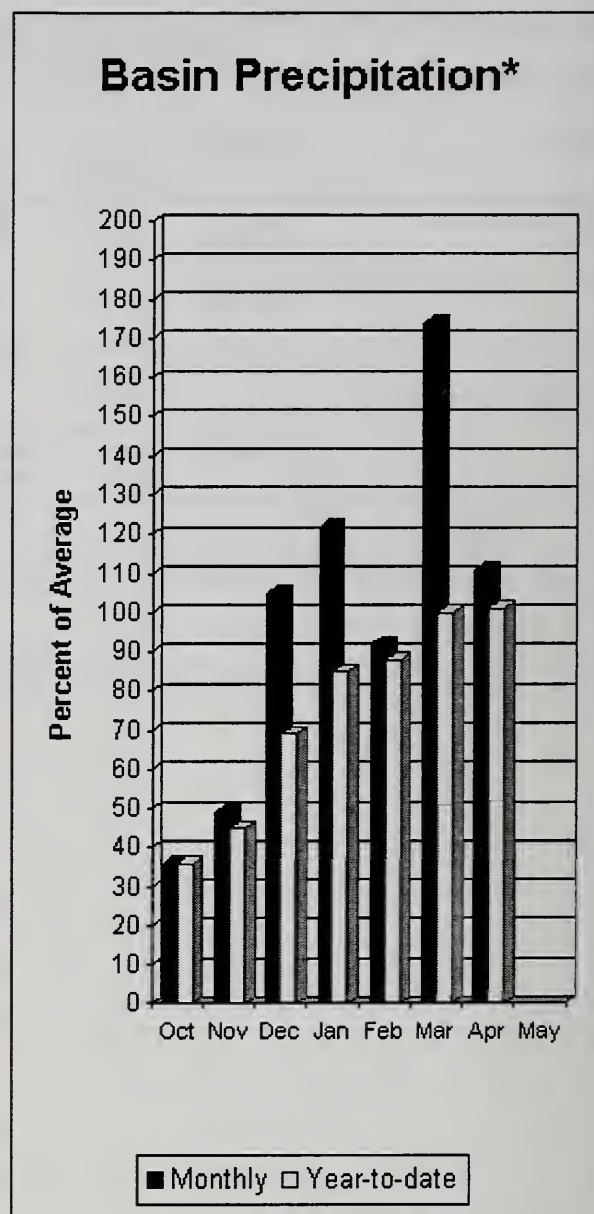
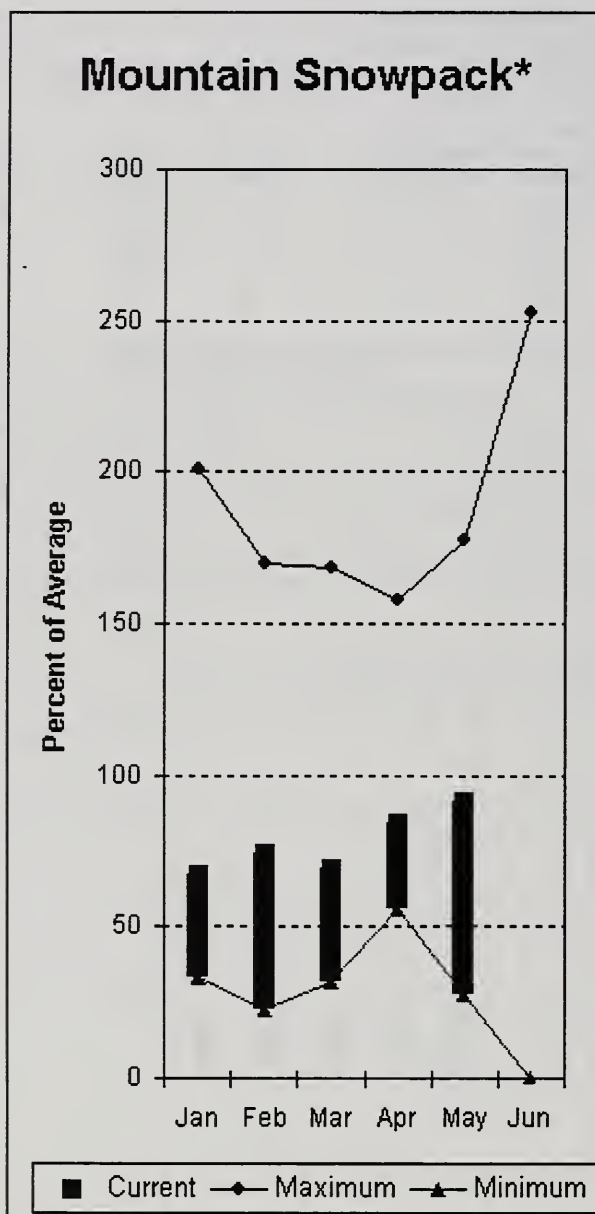
WALLA WALLA RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April					WALLA WALLA RIVER BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2003			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
					WALLA WALLA RIVER	2	64	79

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

- (1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
- (2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

Lower Snake River Basin



*Based on selected stations

The May - September forecast is for 99% for Clearwater River at Spalding. The Snake and Grande Ronde rivers can expect summer flows to be about 86% and 71% of normal respectively. April precipitation was 111% of average, bringing the year-to-date precipitation to 101% of average. May 1 snowpack readings averaged 91% of normal. April streamflow was 81% of average for Snake River below Lower Granite Dam and 94% for Grande Ronde River near Troy. Average temperatures were near normal for April and 1 degree above normal for the water year.

Lower Snake River Basin

Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2003

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						
		Chance Of Exceeding *						
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
GRANDE RONDE at Troy (1)	MAY-JUL	376	544	620	71	696	865	872
	MAY-SEP	418	605	690	71	775	960	970
CLEARWATER at Spalding (1,2)	MAY-JUL	4600	5340	5680	98	6020	6760	5773
	MAY-SEP	4970	5770	6130	99	6490	7290	6188
SNAKE blw Lower Granite Dam (1,2)	MAY-JUL	11310	13572	14600	86	15630	17890	16940
	MAY-SEP	12995	15612	16800	86	17990	20600	19650

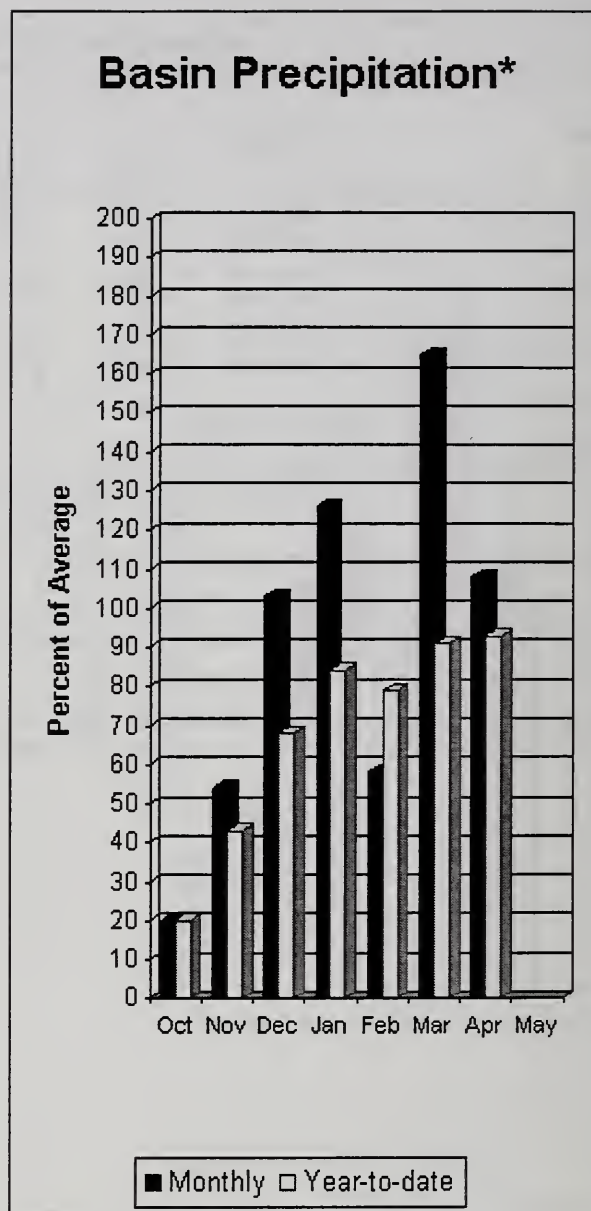
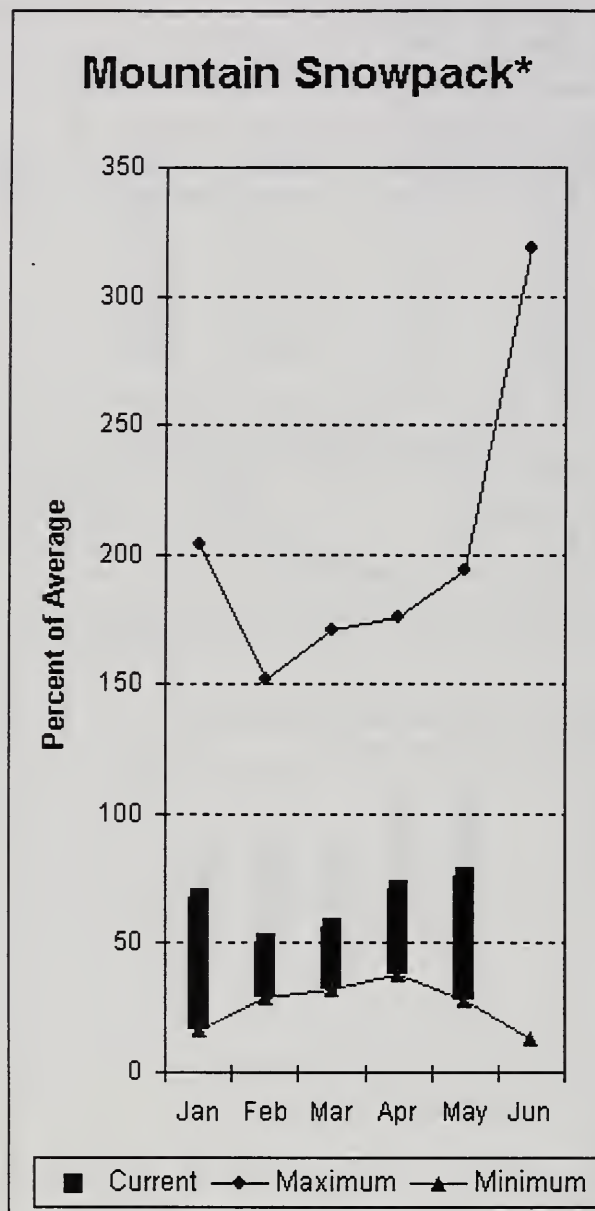
LOWER SNAKE RIVER BASIN Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April					LOWER SNAKE RIVER BASIN Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2003			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
					LOWER SNAKE, GRANDE RONDE	13	86	91

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Cowlitz - Lewis River Basins



*Based on selected stations

Forecasts for May – September streamflows within the basin are Lewis River at Ariel, 86% and Cowlitz River at Castle Rock, 80% of average. April average streamflow for Cowlitz River was 98% and 87% for Lewis River. The Columbia River at The Dalles was 92% of average. April precipitation was 108% of average and the water-year average was 93%. May 1 snow cover for Cowlitz River was 81%, and Lewis River was 72% of average. Average temperatures were near normal during April and have averaged 2 degrees above throughout the water year.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.

Cowlitz - Lewis River Basins

Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2003

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		=====		Chance Of Exceeding *		=====		
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
LEWIS at Ariel (2)	MAY-JUL	436	510	560	84	610	684	667
	MAY-SEP	568	644	695	86	746	822	812
COWLITZ R. bl Mayfield Dam (2)	MAY-SEP	380	844	1160	79	1476	1940	1478
	MAY-JUL	329	719	985	79	1251	1641	1247
COWLITZ R. at Castle Rock (2)	MAY-SEP	523	1117	1520	80	1923	2517	1893
	MAY-JUL	390	884	1220	77	1556	2050	1581
KLICKITAT near Glenwood	MAY-JUN	72	80	86	84	92	100	102
	MAY-SEP	96	107	115	85	123	134	135
COLUMBIA R. at The Dalles (2)	MAY-SEP	57944	64765	69400	81	74030	80860	85635
	MAY-JUL	48044	53734	57600	81	61470	67160	71413

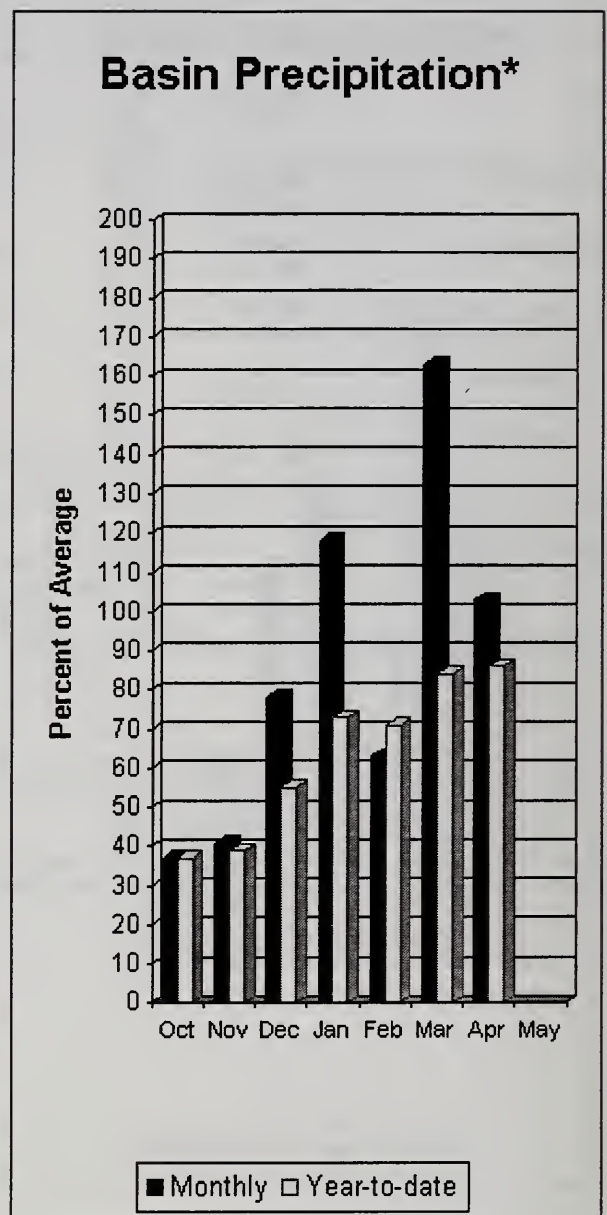
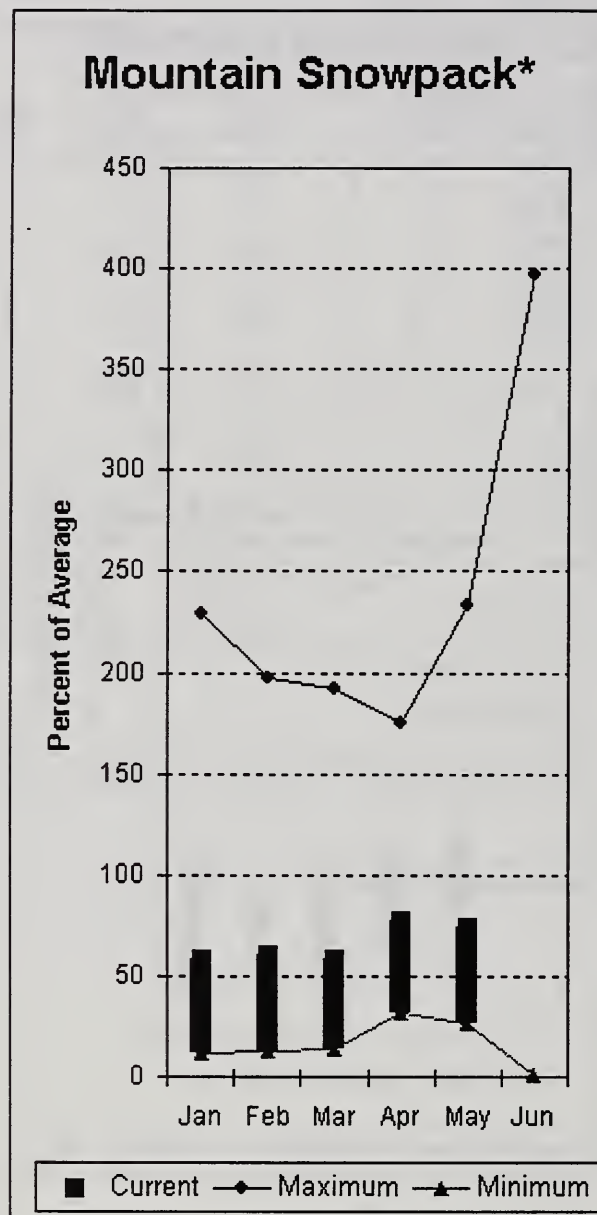
COWLITZ - LEWIS RIVER BASINS Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April					COWLITZ - LEWIS RIVER BASINS Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2003			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
					LEWIS RIVER	4	43	72
					COWLITZ RIVER	6	66	81

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

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White - Green River Basins



*Based on selected stations

Summer runoff is forecast to be 89% of normal for the Green River below Howard Hanson Dam and 86% for the White River near Buckley. May 1 snowpack was 89% of average in both White River and Puyallup River basins and 58% in Green River Basin. Water content on May 1 at Corral Pass SNOTEL, at an elevation of 6,000 feet, was 34.9 inches. This site has a May 1 average of 35.3 inches. April precipitation was 103% of average, bringing the water year-to-date to 86% of average for the basins. Average temperatures in the area were 1 degree above normal last month and 1 degree above for the water-year.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.

White - Green - Puyallup River Basins

Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2003

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>>						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		=====		Chance Of Exceeding *		=====		
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
WHITE near Buckley (1,2)	MAY-JUL	231	285	310	89	335	389	348
	MAY-SEP	294	353	380	86	407	466	442
GREEN below Howard Hanson (1,2)	MAY-JUL	105	129	140	88	151	175	159
	MAY-SEP	122	152	165	89	178	208	185

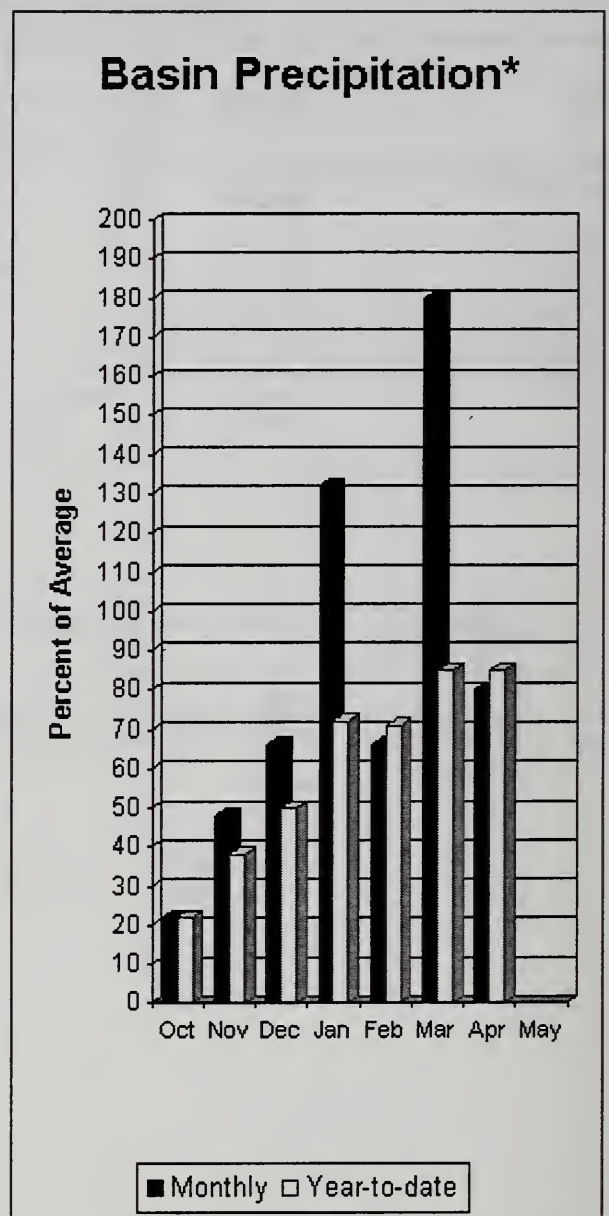
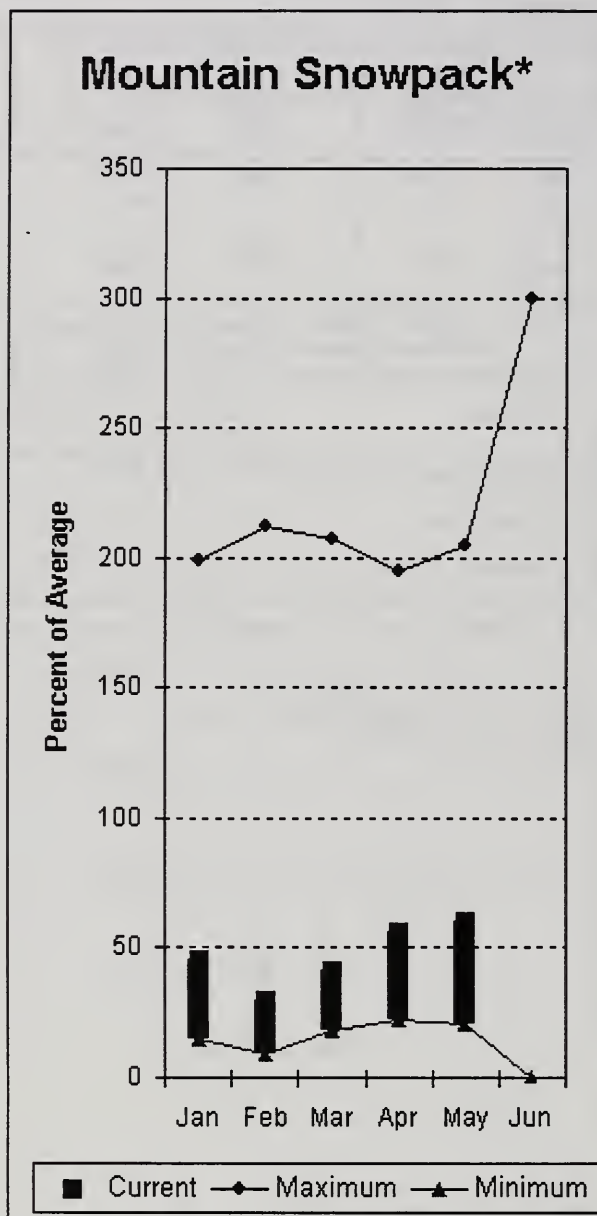
WHITE - GREEN - PUYALLUP RIVER BASINS Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April					WHITE - GREEN - PUYALLUP RIVER BASINS Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2003			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
					WHITE RIVER	3	82	89
					GREEN RIVER	6	36	58
					PUYALLUP RIVER	3	82	89

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

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Central Puget Sound River Basins



*Based on selected stations

Forecast for spring and summer flows are: 90% for Cedar River near Cedar Falls; 90% for Rex River; 91% for South Fork of the Tolt River; and 85% for Cedar River at Cedar Falls. Basin-wide precipitation for April was 80% of average, bringing water-year-to-date to 85% of average. May 1 average snow cover in Cedar River Basin was 57%, Tolt River Basin was 51%, Snoqualmie River Basin was 64%, and Skykomish River Basin was 67%. Olallie Meadows SNOTEL site at 3960 feet, had 39.2 inches of water content. Average May 1 water content is 55.1 inches at Olallie Meadows. April temperatures were near average for the past month and 1 degree above normal for the water-year.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.

Central Puget Sound River Basins

Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2003

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		=====		Chance Of Exceeding *		=====		
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
CEDAR near Cedar Falls	MAY-JUL	35	42	47	90	52	59	52
	MAY-SEP	40	48	53	90	58	66	59
REX near Cedar Falls	MAY-JUL	10.5	13.8	16.0	92	18.2	22	17.4
	MAY-SEP	11.8	15.5	18.0	90	21	24	20
CEDAR RIVER at Cedar Falls	MAY-JUL	8.9	27	40	85	53	71	47
	MAY-SEP	2.9	24	39	85	54	75	46
SOUTH FORK TOLT near Index	MAY-JUL	7.4	8.9	9.9	90	10.9	12.4	11.0
	MAY-SEP	8.8	10.7	12.0	91	13.3	15.2	13.2

CENTRAL PUGET SOUND RIVER BASINS Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April

CENTRAL PUGET SOUND RIVER BASINS Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2003

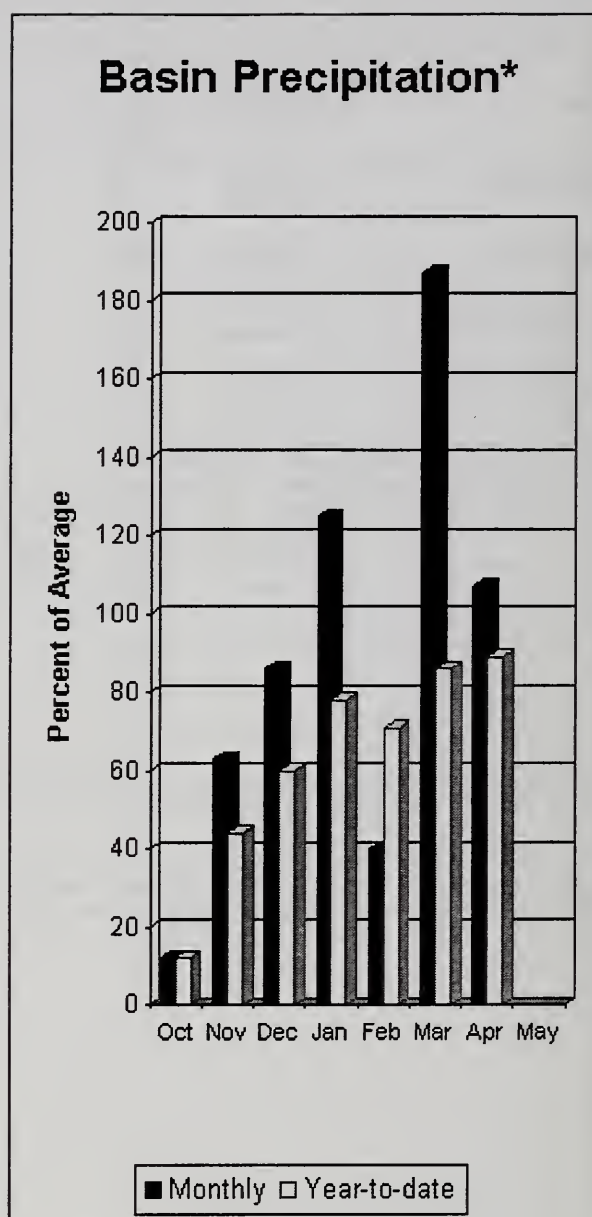
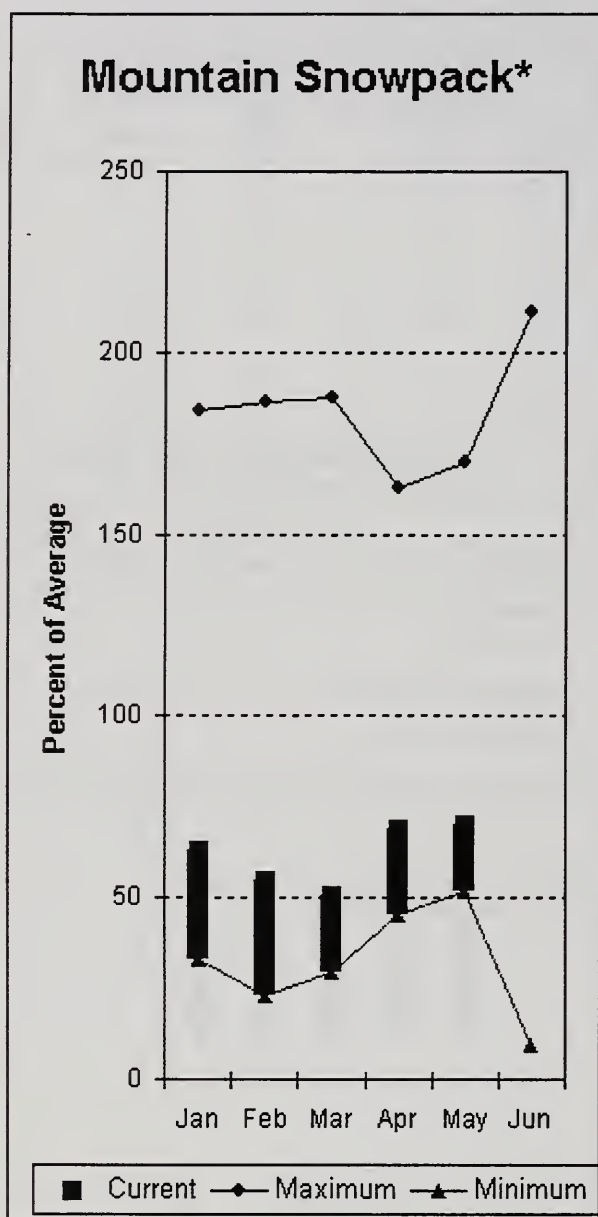
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
					CEDAR RIVER	4	23	57
					TOLT RIVER	2	27	51
					SNOQUALMIE RIVER	5	37	64
					SKYKOMISH RIVER	3	42	67

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

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North Puget Sound River Basins



*Based on selected stations

Forecast for Skagit River streamflow at Newhalem is 87% of average for the spring and summer period. April streamflow in Skagit River was 101% of average. Other forecast points included Baker River at 86% and Thunder Creek at 90% of average. Basin-wide precipitation for April was 90% of average, bringing water-year-to-date to 87% of average. May 1 average snow cover in Skagit River Basin was 75%, Baker River Basin was 87% and Nooksack River Basin was 48%. Rainy Pass SNOTEL, at 4,780 feet, had 34.2 inches of water content. Average May 1 water content is 43.2 inches at Rainy Pass. May 1 Skagit River reservoir storage was 135% of average and 72% of capacity. Average April temperatures were near normal for the basin and 1 degree above average for the water year.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.

North Puget Sound River Basins

Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2003

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>						
		Chance Of Exceeding *						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
THUNDER CREEK near Newhalem	MAY-JUL	164	179	190	90	201	216	212
	MAY-SEP	254	270	280	90	290	306	310
SKAGIT at Newhalem (2)	MAY-JUL	1255	1341	1400	87	1459	1545	1611
	MAY-SEP	1553	1647	1710	87	1773	1867	1964
BAKER RIVER near Concrete	MAY-JUL	495	546	580	85	614	665	684
	MAY-SEP	648	723	775	86	827	902	906

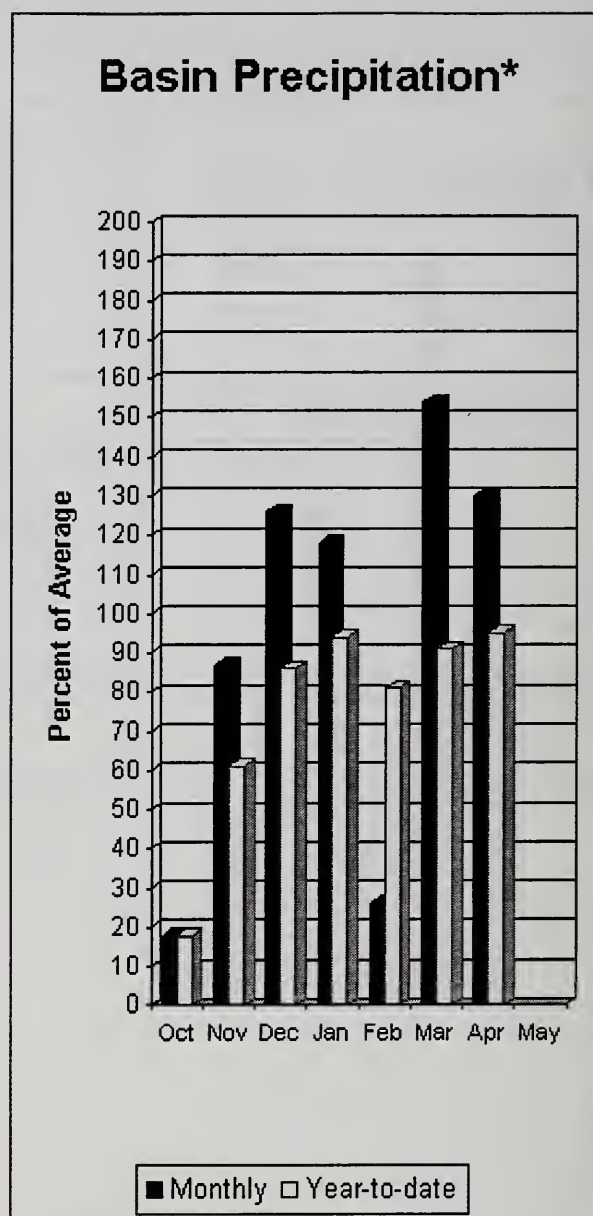
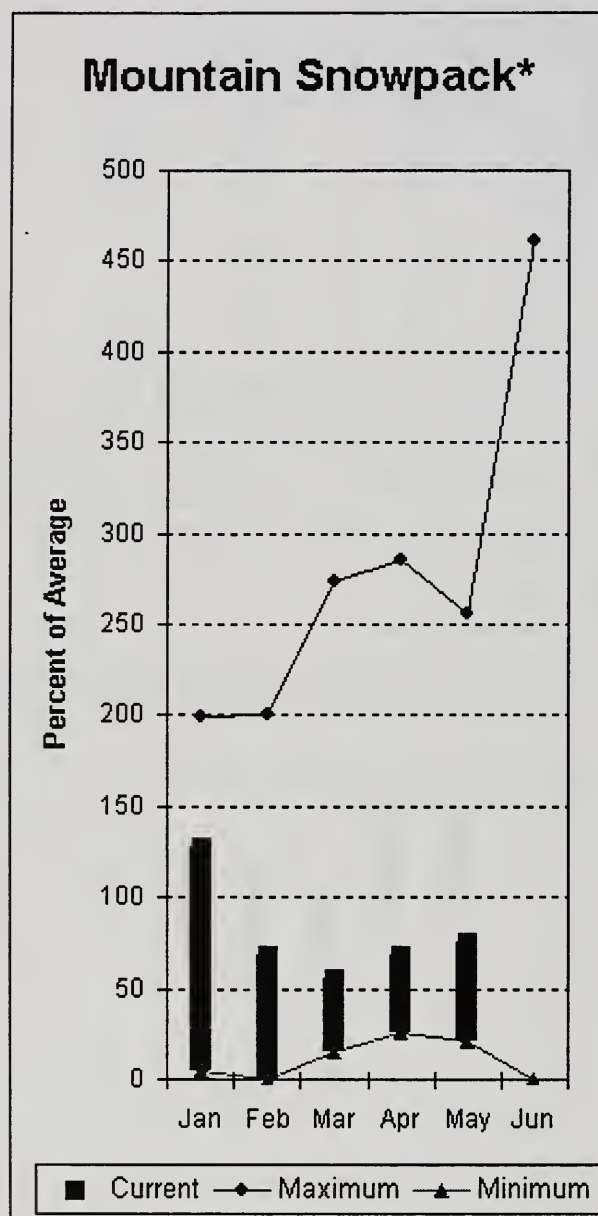
NORTH PUGET SOUND RIVER BASINS Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April					NORTH PUGET SOUND RIVER BASINS Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2003		
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr Average
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			
ROSS	1404.1	989.1	606.4	708.8	SKAGIT RIVER	12	58 75
DIABLO RESERVOIR	90.6	86.3	86.7	85.9	BAKER RIVER	2	72 87
GORGE RESERVOIR	9.8	8.0	7.7	8.0	NOOKSACK RIVER	1	47 48

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

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Olympic Peninsula River Basins



*Based on selected stations

Forecasted average runoff for streamflow in the Dungeness River and Elwha River basins is 87% and 86% respectively. Big Quilcene River should expect slightly below average runoff this summer. April precipitation was 130% of average. Precipitation has accumulated at 95% of average for the water year. April precipitation at Quillayute was 10.37 inches. The thirty-year average for April is 7.44 inches. Olympic Peninsula snowpack averaged 75% of normal on May 1. Mt. Crag SNOTEL, on the East slope, reported 75%. Temperatures were near average for the month and 1-2 degrees above average for the water year.

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.

Olympic Peninsula River Basins

Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2003

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<===== Drier ===== Future Conditions ===== Wetter =====>						30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
		Chance Of Exceeding *						
		90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	
DUNGENESS near Sequim	MAY-SEP	101	109	115	87	121	129	132
	MAY-JUL	80	86	90	86	94	100	105
ELWHA near Port Angeles	MAY-SEP	320	347	365	86	383	410	423
	MAY-JUL	254	276	290	86	304	326	338

OLYMPIC PENINSULA RIVER BASINS Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April					OLYMPIC PENINSULA RIVER BASINS Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2003			
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage ***			Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of	
		This Year	Last Year	Avg			Last Yr	Average
					OLYMPIC PENINSULA	4	63	75
					ELWHA RIVER	1	60	70
					MORSE CREEK	1	63	75
					DUNGENESS RIVER	1	60	79
					QUILCENE RIVER	1	67	75
					WYNOOCHEE RIVER	0	0	0

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1971-2000 base period.

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Issued by

Bruce Knight
Chief
Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Released by

R.L. "Gus" Hughbanks
State Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Spokane, Washington

The Following Organizations Cooperate with the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Snow Survey Work*:

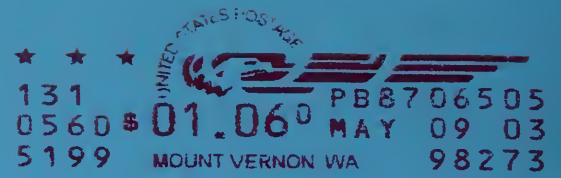
Canada	Ministry of Sustainable Resources Snow Survey, River Forecast Centre, Victoria, British Columbia
State	Washington State Department of Ecology Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Federal	Department of the Army Corps of Engineers U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service U.S. Department of Commerce NOAA, National Weather Service U.S. Department of Interior Bonneville Power Administration Bureau of Reclamation Geological Survey National Park Service Bureau of Indian Affairs
Local	City of Tacoma City of Seattle Chelan County P.U.D. Pacific Power and Light Company Puget Sound Power and Light Company Washington Water Power Company Snohomish County P.U.D. Colville Confederated Tribes Spokane County Yakama Indian Nation Whatcom County Pierce County
Private	Okanogan Irrigation District Wenatchee Heights Irrigation District Newman Lake Homeowners Association Whitestone Reclamation District

*Other organizations and individuals furnish valuable information for the snow survey reports. Their cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.



Washington Snow Survey Office
2021 E. College Way, Suite 214
Mount Vernon, WA 98273-2873

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Washington Water Supply Outlook Report

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Spokane, WA

